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Final Debate

McCain and Obama get tough and personal in a final debate, marking the beginning of a 20-day sprint to Election Day.

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Madonna and Guy Ritchie announced Wednesday they are divorcing after nearly eight years of marriage.

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DHS vows to weigh key federalization issues

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stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

A leading official with the Department of Homeland Security's immigration branch has vowed to give close con-

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'Geothermal an expensive undertaking'

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

APIA, Samoa—Geothermal energy, something CNMI officials have expressed interest in pursuing, has a lot of potential, but initial assessments are

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KRISTI EATON

Solomone Fifita from the Pacific Island Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Removable Energy, or PIGGAREP, speaks about renewable energy sources at the Pacific Islands Climate Change Roundtable in Apia, Samoa, yesterday.

"The House hereby calls for a full and complete investigation into the activities and the causes of those activities that led to an episode at the Saipan International Airport that embarrassed and degraded honored guests."

House demands DOJ probe

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

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Lawmakers issued yesterday a strongly worded demand to the U.S. Department of Justice to probe the controversial operation initiated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration at the Saipan airport on Oct. 4.

"The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands hereby calls for a full and complete investigation into the activities and the causes of those activities that led to an episode at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan Interna-

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Remembering Julian as a husband, father, soldier

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

On the day she learned of her husband's death, Brenda Manglona—the wife of Staff Sgt. Julian Manglona—was planning the couple's wedding.

"I had been on cloud nine all day," she said in an interview Thursday, recounting how she and Julian had chosen to forgo a church wedding when they married in 2007. "I wanted to call him that day and tell him all about it."

Then came a mysterious phone call with an unidentified voice warning that Julian had suffered a heart attack. Military officials are still investigating the actual cause of Manglona's death. However, Brenda knew what had happened when she returned home later that day to find an Army van parked outside her house.

"I just couldn't get out of the car," she said. "We had made so many plans and I was holding onto those plans while he was away. I just didn't want it to be true."

Manglona, 39, died while training at Fort Hood, Texas last week. According to news reports, he had collapsed during a 6-mile run, one of the last legs of his training before his scheduled deployment to Kuwait this month. His comrades tried to revive him, to no avail. Manglona later died at a nearby hospital.

Manglona had belonged to a reserve unit in the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, called up for active duty in July. The one-year tour of duty he was slated to begin would have marked his second in the Middle East.

In 2004, not long after U.S. occupation of Iraq began, Manglona re-enlisted in the Army—he first joined at age 18, serving for a term—and soon found himself on his way into combat. He returned in 2006 to the CNMI, where he had long protected his community as a local police officer.

In December of that year, he met Brenda, then a cadet in Air Force boot camp, at a military store on Saipan. She was reluctant, she said, when he first asked her for a date as she was scheduled to leave for training in two weeks. But Julian was persistent and after some urging, Brenda agreed to have dinner with him—only

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lei Ogumoro, center, and some police officers during a press conference yesterday during which the officers shared their fond memories of Sgt. Julian Manglona.

Local

Tourism officials say sorry to China over DEA search

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Local tourism officials have apologized to authorities in China after Drug Enforcement Administration agents subjected scores of Chinese tourists to intensive body searches at Saipan International Airport nearly two weeks ago. Gov. Benigno Fitial also vowed action to prevent such incidents in the future.

In an Oct. 10 letter to Century Tours and the management of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel—which were involved in the deal that brought the tourists to Saipan on a Shanghai Airlines charter flight—Fitial said his administration has requested talks with the federal government about the searches and how to prevent them from occurring again.

"I want to let you know that my administration is extremely displeased with the manner in which this activity was conducted," Fitial said. "We did not approve of this and do not support such treatment of visitors to our islands."

The searches at issue focused on 147 of the 187 passengers aboard a charter plane that arrived on Saipan in the predawn darkness Saturday Oct. 4. The passengers reported that customs authorities directed them one at a time into an isolated room and searched even the most private parts of their bodies. DEA agents found no illegal drugs during the searches, yet one reported some contraband items—such as plant and animal products—were uncovered.

Many of the travelers said later that they were outraged by the treatment and swore never to return to the CNMI.

However, a DEA agent has said airport searches are commonplace throughout the United States and an integral part of the agency's mission to stop the trafficking of narcotics like crystal methamphetamine, which has become one of the most widely abused drugs in the Marianas. The searches, he added, were random and did not intentionally target any specific group.

Tourism officials on Saipan fear the incident could damage the CNMI's image in China. In an Oct. 10 letter to the Chinese consulate in Los Angeles, California, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio apologized, noting the local government had no control over the operation.

"We hope that this regrettable and isolated incident does not alter your affection for the CNMI and its people," Tenorio said.

CONGRATULATION

Lynn Pangelinan, lower left, recently completed and passed the Arizona Bar Exam. She is also a member of the New York Bar Association. Lynn is the daughter of Joe Pangelinan and Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan. She is pictured here with members of the 2000 Pre-Law Program instituted by the former late Justice Ramon Villagomez: Janet King, Esq., Lulu Wang, and Rep. Rosemond Santos.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DEQ: Cut in price of scrap metal will deter stealing

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The Division of Environmental Quality sees a positive aspect in the lowering of prices of recyclable materials, especially metals and electronics, saying this will deter the theft of these materials.

Basula Produkto, one of the eight recycling facilities on Saipan on the list of DEQ, cut its buying price for recyclable materials by 50 percent starting yesterday.

Eric Cruz, president of Basula Produkto, a joint venture of Ericco Enterprises and Maeda Pacific, said this is due to the current worldwide financial crisis, which is affecting the Asian market where they export the recyclable items.

DEQ public information officer Reina C. Camacho said this would lower the number of cases related to the theft of metals.

The company is now paying sellers 3 cents to zero per kilo of permitted recyclable items such as aluminum, paper and cardboard, electronics, brass, junk vehicles, plastics, glass, and copper. The company's previous buying price was 7 cents a kilo.

Seven other companies are included on DEQ's list of authorized recycling facilities. These are the Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station, Saipan Triple Star Inc., KPS Corporation, KP/MANS Joint Venture, Luen Tai Enterprises Inc., Bali Steel Saipan LLC and Zheng Corp. Ltd.

KPS, which imports spare parts from Korea, explained that it is not buying but actually sells its recyclable materials to Basula Produkto.

KP/MANS said it would not change its current buying price of 75 cents per kilo. It only buys aluminum. The company said it is exporting its items to China, Korea and Japan.

Luen Tai enterprises would not also lower its current buying price of 80 cents per kilo. Its permitted recyclables are aluminum, compressors, copper, brass and motors.

Saipan Triple Star, Lower base and Zheng could not be contacted for comment.

DEQ says recycling is beneficial in two ways: it reduces the inputs and saves air space (energy and raw materials) at the Marpi landfill, and reduces the amount of waste produced for disposal.

Heavy downpour forces museum's closure

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The heavy downpour Wednesday afternoon flooded the NMI Museum of History and Culture, forcing the management to temporarily close the Garapan museum until Tuesday, Oct. 21.

The floodwaters damaged some of the valuable items in the museum but there is no estimate yet on how much the damage will cost and how long it would take them to restore the place.

Museum executive director Robert H. Hunter said it might even take longer than five days because of the big impact of the floodwaters.

"We might be re-opening on Monday but as of now, we will do some fixing and maybe officially start accepting visitors by Tuesday," he said.

Hunter was seen mopping the floors from outside and around the artifacts display areas yesterday afternoon.

"The flooding brought several inches of water and mud into the exhibit area and administrative offices, Hunter said.

He said they would be working until Tuesday to remove the water and mud, and re-hang the exhibits over the next several days.

He said they would be re-scheduling all student visits, and presentation activities during this period.

Hunter recalled that there were four visitors who were watching historical videos when water started flooding the museum's floor.

"They were stuck here for about two hours," he said.

He said about 10 inches of water flooded the floors.

Students from Northern Marianas Colleges were about to enter the premises when they were informed that their trip had been cancelled.

"The students were here as part of their class assignment," Hunter said.

He said it was unfortunate that the students had to be sent away because of the flooding.

An average of 10 people visit the museum on a daily basis but Hunter said it depends on the occasion.

Sometimes a group of hundreds of tourists from Japan, Korea and even China come by the busload.

NMC board approves show-cause report

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Sourcing of funds, recruitment of highly qualified staff, professional development and evaluating students' performance in the classroom were some of the issues addressed in a report approved by the Board of Regents of the Northern Marianas College this week.

Members of the board voted to accept the so-called show-cause report during their regular meeting on Wednesday Oct. 15.

The report demonstrates how the school resolved the recommendations earlier identified by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez in a statement yesterday.

The report, which was prepared by the president and her staff, is in response to the ACCJC's "show-cause" letter on Jan. 31, 2008.

"Today is a great day for the college," Fernandez said during her presentation to the board. "We are submitting to the commission the evidence of all the efforts undertaken by students, staff, faculty and board members."

Fernandez thanked the support they received from the community the past few months, including Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and his administration, Senate President Pete Reyes, Speaker Arnold Palacios, members of the Legislature, and Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio.

Board chair Charles Cepeda was pleased with the contents of the report, saying it was a product of many months of hard work and dedication by the students, staff, faculty and board members.

"We look forward to the arrival of the ACCJC delegation next month so they can see firsthand the progress we have made to meet accreditation standards," Cepeda said.

NMC said the accrediting commission could now evaluate the report.

The ACCJC is set to send its accrediting officers in the first week of November.

1st Chamorro MMA film to be shot in CNMI

Major episodes of the first film to feature local mixed martial artists would be shot on Saipan and Rota, according to Justis "Cuki" Alvarez, president and promoter of Trench Tech Inc.

Alvarez said anyone who wants a crack at becoming an actor or actress would have the chance to be part of the movie, even for the lead role of Jay Garrido, a youngster who wants to become a great MMA fighter.

Auditions for this role and other characters for the film have been set tomorrow in Guam, where most of the episodes would be shot. Some portions would also be shot in California.

The casting location would be at the Guahan Project core Pacific Business Center Suite 301, Chalan San Antonio, Tamuning, Guam.

Alvarez encouraged interested Chamorros to join the auditions. "Be confident. Who knows, you could be the next Brad Pitt or Angelina Jolie."

The audition for the lead role is scheduled at 2pm to 6pm on Oct. 18 while the roles for Gadao and Taga will be on Oct. 21, from 6pm to 9pm.

Gadao is in his early 20s, is an MMA fighter, and a kind of Psycho Chamorro, while Taga is an unbelievably strong and brave 10-year-old boy based on the Myth of Taga.

Other characters that are up for grabs are:

Ditty, a hot and sassy Chamorro-Filipina girl, a kind of Paris Hilton of Guam.

Don Don, is an attractive and intelligent Chamorro girl who has a deep appreciation for Chamorro culture. She is Jay Garrido's love interest.

Teresita, a mid-30s Chamorro woman who is Jay's mother.

Nana, mid-60s, Jay's grandma who is strong-willed and proud of her Chamorro culture and ancestors.

Aunty Lou, early 30s, who is a Chamorro and Jay's aunt, eccentric but loving and warm.

Madame President, mid-50s, a rich woman who loves to dress fashionably, very superficial and portrayed as a "cougar in the prowl."

Auditions for the roles of Madame President, Ditty and Don Don would be on Oct. 23, from 6pm to 9pm.

Those interested to be part of the movie may e-mail guamfeature@email.com.

The film would be shot in 2009. *(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)*

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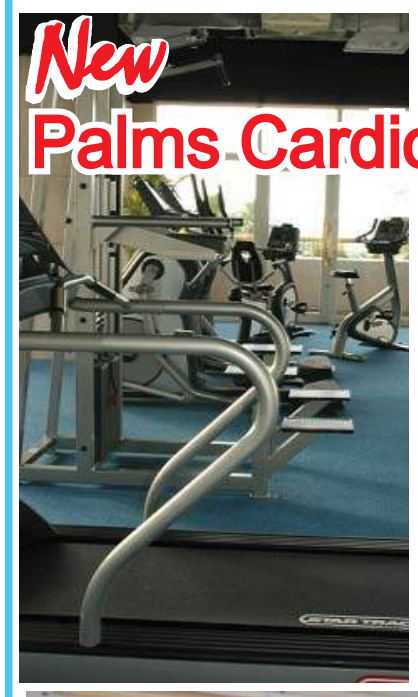

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REMEMBERING

From Page 1

to become so nervous on the night they were to meet that they skipped the meal to spend the evening strolling through the garden at the Hyatt Regency. Julian proposed three months later and they married in July.

"It just felt right," Brenda said.

The two later became parents to Maxine Julianne Manglona, born on Christmas Eve. Julian had seven children previously and, according to Brenda, did his best to provide for all of them.

Manglona also had a love of the oceans, spending his free time fishing and piloting one of his boats on the water, an interest that crossed over into his police career when he began doing boat safety work and even took part in rescue work.

And then came the day he was to leave again for the Army.

Cops share fond memories of Manglona

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police officers yesterday shared fond memories of Staff Sgt. Julian Manglona, who collapsed and died while training at Fort Hood, Texas, in preparation for his deployment to Kuwait.

In a press conference at the Department of Public Safety's commissioner's office, DPS spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said they lost "a dear friend, a dear family member, and a dear colleague."

"The community for both Tinian and Saipan has lost a valuable public servant," Ogumoro added, pointing out that Manglona served DPS for over 17 years.

Police Officer 2 Vincent Mareham said he used to work under Manglona at the juvenile investigation section of the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau. "I worked with the guy. He's a down-to-earth supervisor. He cares about his subordinates. Overall, he was a funny guy. I'll miss him," Mareham said.

Police Officer 1 Kelly Camacho said Manglona was a very good leader to his subordinates.

Camacho said that, whether at DPS or the Army Reserve, Manglona was always motivated to work.

"I can't believe he left us early. We remember him and pray for him," Camacho said.

Although they both worked at CIB, Police Officer 2 Andrea Ozawa said her fond memories of Manglona was him as a runner. She said they used to run to Mt. Tapochau, Marpi, As Teo, and other places.

Ozawa said Manglona was one of the few people who would go with her to the hill of Chalan Galaide.

"He was so crazy—he was carrying a huge backpack and I would turn around and ask him, 'Julian, why you are carrying that and how much are you carrying?'"

Ozawa said Manglona had told her that while in the Army they would carry 70 pounds.

Because of that, she said, she was quite surprised that Manglona collapsed on a 6-mile run during training.

"I was really hoping that he would be with us next year and join us during the island relay in December," Ozawa said.

She added she will surely miss Manglona and hopes they will be able to do something this year at DPS in memory of him.

Police Officer 1 Patrick Maanao and Manglona met in 1997 on Tinian. From that year, the two developed a close friendship.

When Manglona was transferred to Saipan DPS, he became Maanao's supervisor at the juvenile investigation unit.

"I've also worked with Julian in the Army Reserve Unit. In both the Army and DPS, he displayed great leadership," Maanao said.

"He will be missed by our department. He has developed a lot of friends in and out in the office as well. And I was hoping as Detective Ozawa said he will join us again in the relay," said Maanao.

Sgt. Sylvan Rangamar said that when Manglona reported to the Criminal Investigation Bureau, he took over the general crimes unit.

"He did a lot to have the guys catch up with their cases. Little did I know that we're of the same age and same rank. That didn't distract him from being a good leader," Rangamar said.

Manglona started in 1991 as a police cadet. He graduated during the 11th cycle police academy in 1992.

He then worked with Tinian DPS for many years. In 2006 he was transferred to Saipan DPS where he served under the patrol section and became a member of the dive rescue team. He was then assigned at CIB, which is now called Criminal Investigation Division.

Ogumoro said funeral arrangements are still underway and that Manglona will be provided full police honor upon his arrival.

DPS will provide police escorts, while the Army will render a 21-gun salute.

DHS

From Page 1

sideration to a host of key immigration issues highlighted by the president of the CNMI Bar Association on the impact of the pending federal takeover of local immigration rules.

In a letter to DHS last month, Bar Association president Maya Kara wrote that federal authorities must address at least seven potential problems linked to the regulations they are now drafting that will govern the CNMI's immigration system. Among them are the consequences the rules might have for the immediate alien relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens, the income criteria for guest workers to secure a category H visa and the new rules' prospective impact on permanent foreign residents and retirees.

District director David Gulick of DHS' U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in an Oct. 3 response said he would "assist in resolution" of the issues Kara had raised and that his office "will continue to give them consideration."

'Serious problems'

President Bush earlier this year signed legislation into law establishing federal authority over the CNMI's immigration system. Yet as noted in Kara's letter, the transition from a locally-run immigration scheme to one operated by the federal government could pose serious problems for many in the CNMI.

For example, the federal income requirements workers must meet in order to have an H visa—likely to become the dominant form of visa they will seek in the CNMI—could make securing one nearly impossible for some. Kara suggested that DHS consider a set of CNMI-only criteria for the visas that would account for economic disparities between the islands and the American mainland.

"Especially given the current state of its economy, the CNMI will not be able to meet the current standards for the holders of these visas even in Guam, for the foreseeable future," she wrote, adding that many seeking status as lawful permanent residents face similar problems due to federal income standards.

Alien spouses

The so-called "federalization" of local immigration rules threatens to disrupt the lives of some married couples in cases when an American citizen is wedded to a foreigner, Kara added.

The alien spouses of citizens, a demographic that is likely in the thousands, have long held status as "immediate relatives" in the CNMI, meaning they never had to apply for citizenship themselves under local rules and were free to work in the islands without restrictions. Federal immigration controls, however, could change that and when the new rules are implemented next year, the transition could overwhelm authorities.

"If I am correct, the numbers are such that it may not be feasible for your Guam office to process all of them before they go out of status," said Kara. "The result will be considerable hardship for those effected families."

The surviving foreign widows and widowers of U.S. citizens may also encounter this problem, she added, and will need some accommodation when the new rules take effect.

Permanent residents

Moreover, a smaller demographic, the permanent foreign residents of the CNMI, could fall through the cracks if DHS fails to consider their presence in the islands. For decades, Kara noted, these residents have lived in the CNMI. While some may qualify to become permanent residents under U.S. law, others may not and be forced to leave.

"[T]hese individuals who have lived most or all of their adult life in the CNMI will suffer severe hardship if forced to depart," she said.

Immediate relatives

The immediate alien relatives of citizens from the Freely Associated States—such as Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia—could also encounter trouble as the federal immigration takeover begins, Kara said.

Under local laws, the "non-FAS citizen" immediate relatives of FAS citizens are allowed to live and work in the CNMI but with the new immigration scheme, they may no longer have any available visa status to stay. Kara proposed a CNMI-only option to let these individuals remain in the Commonwealth.

In addition, Kara noted, foreign retirees living in the CNMI under 5-year renewable visas, many of them Japanese nationals, will need some consideration from DHS. Protecting this visa category, she said, is critical to expanding and retaining Japanese tourism.

GEOTHERMAL

From Page 1

extensive and can costs millions of dollars, compared to other renewable sources, with assessments in the thousands, a leading researcher at the Pacific Climate Roundtable said yesterday.

"For geothermal, costs can number up to the millions. You need an interested investor to confirm there is geothermal energy there," said Solomone Fifita from the Pacific Island Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Removable Energy, PIGGAREP.

The Department of the Interior gave the CNMI a grant to assess the potential for geothermal energy in the islands. The amount of money for the grant was not available at press time.

The Pacific islands have the highest renewable energy potential per capita, and renewable energy is the most cost-effective source for many areas in the Pacific, Fifita said.

"People must have modern electricity or energy in order to develop socially and economically," he added.

Several Pacific island countries have set renewable energy targets. By 2011 Fiji hopes to have renewable energy in their power utility. Samoa hopes to have 20 percent of its power production from a renewable source by 2030. And by 2010 Tonga hopes 40 to 50 percent of its energy will be from a renewable source.

"Tonga better get moving. It's only two years now, and I know they're at zero right now," Fifita said.

Under CNMI public law, renewable energy must constitute at least 10 percent of the total energy produced by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. by the end of 2008. From then on, the standard would double every two years, until it reaches 80 percent in 2014.

Eleven countries in the Pacific are taking part in PIGGAREP, which aims by June 2012 to remove the barriers to widespread utilization of renewable energy. The Global Environment Facility provided $5.23 million for the project. CNMI is not one of the areas taking part, although depending on funding sources the Commonwealth can be eligible, Fifita said.

Thomas Jensen from the United Nations Development Program said people don't tend to think about the consequences of energy until it's too later.

"Energy is not a sexy issue," he said. "It's only when you see the power bill... that you notice."

"The point we have to get across is we need to be proactive," he added. "We can't do anything without energy. You need it to run hospitals and schools."

Now officials are thinking about renewable energy.

"People are very good at listening when the price of oil is $140 per barrel," he said. "Normally we have to knock on their doors."

For example, he said, hydropower is three times cheaper than power generation in Samoa.

HOUSE

From Page 1

tional Airport that embarrassed and degraded honored guests of the Northern Mariana Islands and may have violated their civil rights," states a resolution adopted by the legislators yesterday.

The lawmakers also seek full disclosure of the details surrounding what they called "highly irregular search procedures conducted only on Chinese citizens irrespective of anti-profiling directives." Further, they insist that the DOJ inform Chinese officials that the DEA, and not the local customs or immigration officials, were responsible for the incident.

At issue in the lawmakers' demands was the DEA's operation where 147 of 187 arriving passengers on a Shanghai Airlines flight were subjected to intensive body searches at the Saipan International Airport. Tour operators report that agents corralled the passengers—all Chinese—into a small room and searched even the most private parts of their bodies, in addition to checking every piece of luggage they carried.

The DEA says it was acting on a tip about narcotics on the flight. Although the searches yielded no illegal drugs, some contraband items such as illegal plant and animal products were reportedly intercepted during the operation.

"These searches, and the abhorrent treatment of the passengers subjected to it, caused extreme embarrassment, discomfort, fear, and a feeling of perverse violation to the affected tourists and other guests of the Commonwealth," states the House-adopted resolution. It adds that the body searches were "harsh and irrational," and caused irreparable harm "to the reputation of the Commonwealth and to the psyches of the victims of this demeaning episode."

According to the lawmakers, the federal government must reveal details of the tip, which the DEA says prompted the operation. Further, the DEA must apologize to the tourists and to the Chinese government, they said.

The strong language used in the resolution caused some concern among several House members. Foreign and Federal Relations Committee chair Diego Benavente moved to remove a provision containing the phrase "multiple fondling of [the passengers'] private parts." The House adopted the amendment.

Rep. Tina Sablan also proposed a host of amendments to remove "inflammatory language" from the resolution, but the majority shot down her proposal. She voted against the resolution.

Rep. Stanley T. Torres, sponsor of the resolution, said there is an urgent need for the CNMI to send a strong message that it does not condone the episode. House Minority Leader Oscar M. Babauta agreed, saying the procedures followed during the DEA's operation were "indeed highly irregular."

CISCO back to repairing engines at power plant

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has been working again with the Commonwealth Industrial Supply Co. Inc. to repair the six engines at Power Plant 2 in Lower Base.

CUC executive director Antonio Muña told *Saipan Tribune* that power engines 1 and 6 at Power Plant 2 have been producing at least four megawatts since last week after CISCO went back to work on them.

"We revisited the contract and right now we're working with them to get the promised eight megawatts from Power Plant 2 as per the initial contract," Muna said.

He said this is a negotiated process.

CUC hired CISCO in 2006 to fix six engines at Power Plant 2. The utility agency signed the contract with CUC without soliciting bids or proposals from any other company. Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez approved the contract on May 14, 2006, according to the governor's state of emergency declaration.

The plan was to rehabilitate Power Plant 2 engines so as to allow power engines at Power Plant 1 to be shut down for overhauls.

In July 2008, it was reported that CISCO's work was suspended as only one engine was repaired.

Muña earlier disclosed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Office of the Public Auditor have been looking into the contracting arrangement between CUC and CISCO.

The FBI is reportedly involved in the probe because the $885,000 used to pay CISCO came from the federal government.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* early this week, Muña said CUC was not aggressive in pursuing the warranty issues with what they expected CISCO to deliver.

"But we also found there are certain deliverables that we are still confirming in the process from CISCO. So in that whole process there may have been some issues with CUC on one side, there are also some issues on CISCO's side," he said.

The executive director expressed hope that, as they work out their concerns with each other with respect to how the contract was supposed to be completed and what deliverables were supposed to have been realized, they will now get eight megawatts from Power Plant 2.

Muña said looking at the issue with the contract actually is about ascertaining what deliverables were supposed to be realized from CISCO and compared to what was realized.

"In that whole process, we determined that it allows us to go back to the table again, move that to revisit the plant," he said.

Muña said it's been a few weeks now or about 30 days when CISCO started working on engine no. 1 at Power Plant 2.

House confirms Pai as OPA chief

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives yesterday confirmed the nomination of Michael Pai to serve as the Commonwealth's public auditor.

The House members voted unanimously to approve Pai's six-year appointment. The Senate is expected to follow suit today. The House vote comes a day after Pai appeared in a confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigation and the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, where he received strong support from lawmakers, colleagues, and community leaders.

Pai

During the confirmation hearing, Pai said he will keep the Office of the Public Auditor "independent, factual, and fair to all concerned."

In a resolution, the House members note Pai's broad experience as an accountant and auditor, as well as his active involvement in the local community.

"Mr. Pai's extensive work experience in the field of financing and auditing, coupled with his certification as a certified public accountant, manifests that he possesses the vital credentials to serve as public auditor for the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands," the resolution states.

Pai has been a certified public accountant for more than 20 years. He attended the University of Hawaii, where he completed degrees in engineering and business administration.

He is currently a shareholder of Universal Air Supply, an air-conditioning and refrigeration wholesale and retail company in Guam; Plexus International, a training and quality management systems firm in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Saipan Sunset Cruise Inc, a local boat cruise tours company.

In addition, he serves as treasurer of Chong's Corporation, which offers air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment and services. The company, Pai admitted, conducts "a significant amount of business with the government."

Pai pledges to give up his interests in Saipan Sunset Cruise, but is not clear about Chong's Corporation. He maintains he is not involved in day-to-day operations of the company, which is owned by his wife and her mother. He also vows to recuse himself from any possible procurement case involving Chong's and not to use government time and resources for any work related to the company.

Pai is also an active in community activities, serving as member of the CNMI Board of Accountancy, the NMI Judiciary Historical Society, and the Pet Assistance & Welfare Services group. Pai was also a president and a board member of the Rotary Club of Saipan, and was a board member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

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Details sought in lawsuit vs federalization

Citing the Open Government Act, a lawmaker has asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to disclose information related to the lawsuit Fitial had filed against the U.S. government over the new immigration law.

Rep. Tina Sablan requested copies of all contracts related to the lawsuit, including any contracts between the CNMI government and Jenner & Block, as well as any private attorneys or law firms involved in the suit.

She also asked for documents on payments made on the contracts and the funding sources. She called on the governor to identify government agencies that have had their funds reprogrammed to fund the lawsuit, and the amounts of money taken from them.

In addition, Sablan asked the governor to comment on concerns about the constitutionality of his decision to file the lawsuit without the explicit consent of the CNMI attorney general. The Constitution states that the AG should represent the Commonwealth in all legal matters.

Under the law, the governor has 10 days to respond to the request. "I expect we will comply and have a response within the time period allowed by law," said press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr.

On Sept. 12, 2008, Fitial filed the lawsuit in the federal court for the District of Columbia in a bid to block the pending federal takeover of local labor and immigration.

How Fitial is funding the lawsuit remains undisclosed. He says "concerned private individuals" paid for the legal review conducted prior to the filing of the lawsuit, but refuses to name them in public. He has asked the Legislature to appropriate money for the lawsuit, but the lawmakers have declined to do so, saying the CNMI cannot afford a court battle against the deep-pocketed U.S. government.

The U.S.-based Jenner & Block law firm, which did the legal review and represents the governor in the lawsuit, is supposed to be receiving a fee of $50,000 a month for its services. ***(Agnes E Donato)***

GCA holds fundraising dinner tonight

Grace Christian Academy is holding a fundraising dinner tonight at the Fiesta Resort Hotel and Spa for the benefit of the student body organization.

The special event is scheduled from 6pm to 10pm with entertainment to be provided by the students, parents, faculty members and staff.

This is the third time the school will hold the fundraising dinner, spearheaded by a committee headed by its chairman, Ed Salas. This year's theme is "A Night to be Thankful"

GCA principal Faith Dela Rosa said the committee members have worked hard to make the event successful and memorable.

The committee has been working since the start of the school year to design and distribute tickets, organize presentations, secure donors, and coordinate efforts with teachers and parents.

Salas and school accountant Benjie Ganapin will be the evening's masters of ceremony.

Door and raffle prizes, donated by individuals and numerous local businesses, would also be given away.

Dela Rosa said that previous funds raised were used to build a covered walkway between GCA's elementary and high school buildings.

Last school year, school administrators cited an urgent need to repair the school's basketball court's roof, install bleachers, and construct a library. To complete the basketball court project, an estimated $169.000 is needed.

To purchase tickets, turn in donations, and for more information about GCA's 3rd Annual Fundraising, call 322-3320/3850. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Man alleges lawsuit is an extortion try

A man who was sued over the ownership of a store's parking lot said the case is just an attempt to extort money from the landlord.

Ray M. Bermudes, also known as Ray Falcon, told *Saipan Tribune* that Barbara B. Feger, who filed the lawsuit, is actually his sister. He said his sister was pushed into filing the case by her husband.

"If Mr. Feger wants to take all the land, he has to wait for the lease agreement to finish in 25 years," he said. "He cannot just come in here now as everything was done legally in 2000."

The parking lot, Bermudes said, belongs to his brother and that at the time he was given the power of attorney as witnessed by his two other brothers to go ahead and lease out the parking lot.

Bermudes said he and attorney Ramon Quichocho will answer the lawsuit in court.

With respect to the $10,000 that the court found him liable to pay Barbara Feger, Bermudes said the issue is on appeal before the CNMI Supreme Court.

Barbara Feger had sued Bermudes and storeowner Lin Jin Song.

Mrs. Feger, through counsel Loren A. Sutton, asked the Superior Court to declare that she is the owner of the subject land and to void a lease agreement entered by Bermudes to allow Song to use a portion of the land as a parking lot. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Senators grill presumptive AG nominee in hearing

By AGNES E.DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka got a taste Wednesday of the tough confirmation hearing that awaits him if he accepts a probable nomination to the AG post.

Baka went to Legislature to testify on behalf of public auditor nominee Michael Pai. While Pai received a largely welcoming treatment from the lawmakers, Baka had to answer hard questions on white-collar crime and the governor's immigration lawsuit against the U.S. government.

Sen. Maria Pangelinan, who threw the first question at Baka, asked about the corruption cases that the Office of the Public Auditor had referred to the Office of the Attorney General for legal action. According to OPA, the CNMI government could recover up to $2.6 million if the AG's office pursued legal action against individuals that OPA found to have misused public funds.

Pangelinan suggested that the OAG, by taking no action on the OPA-referred cases, might be rendering the audits an exercise in futility. "If you cannot act on these findings, then maybe you should tell Mr. Mike Pai. It will make his work easier. No more reports, no more audits," she said.

Baka said no action has been taken on many of the cases because the AG's office lacks attorneys to prosecute them. From having 30 attorneys at the end of 2005, the OAG is currently down to 17 attorneys. Budget problems and the existing government salary cap prevent the agency from hiring the needed attorneys, he added.

He also noted that some of the cases have gone over the statute of limitation and can no longer be brought to court. The statute of limitation for such cases expired before he joined the AG's office in 2005.

Baka also argued that an audit finding of possible corruption does not always lead to a solid criminal case. "It does not necessarily mean you can prove beyond reasonable doubt that a criminal offense has occurred," he said.

Yet Baka reported that the OAG and OPA have created a task force to deal with white-collar cases, including those referred by OPA. Established in May 2008, the joint task force initially had three attorneys. But it now has only two attorneys after the task force chief, former assistant attorney general Mike Nisperos, left to work in Guam. Baka said the AG's office is looking to replace Nisperos.

Baka also underscored why OPA's work is important and should be funded continually. "The Office of the Public Auditor is extraordinarily effective," he said. "I think it's vital to document what's going on. If we lack the resources to collect or we lack the evidence to convict—that's a whole separate issue from whether we should try to document and maintain fiscal integrity."

He added, "I think you're getting your money's worth from OPA. I don't think it is something that should be cut back, even if it exposes all these things that nothing is done about. It's better to know there's something wrong even if we can't fix it than not to know what is wrong at all."

Rep. Diego T. Benavente also asked Baka whether it is legal for a lawsuit to be filed on behalf of the CNMI government without explicit consent by the local AG's office, as is the case with immigration federalization lawsuit that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial filed against the U.S. government.

According to Baka, the governor's action was "perfectly legal," as the OAG's consent is not required. He noted, however, that while the AG's office did not sign off on the complaint, it was circulated within the OAG for review before it was filed.

Fitial has announced his intent to appoint Baka to officially serve as the Commonwealth's attorney general. Unlike the OPA post, which requires confirmation by both the Senate and House of Representatives, any nomination for attorney general only needs Senate approval.

Still, Senate President Pete Reyes invited House members to participate in any confirmation hearing for the AG nominee. "We will have a day with you when your nomination comes up," Senate President Pete Reyes told Baka.

TIG welders needed for Guam manpower pool

A Saipan-based alien workers group is working with a company that is in need of more than 100 Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG) welders for Guam.

Irene Tantiado, president of the United Workers Movement, NMI, said they are now collecting the resumes of alien workers who are interested in applying for this position.

"Only workers who meet the basic, common and core competencies required for this category will be included in the pool," said Tantiado.

For reference, the competency requirements for this category may be found at www.tesda.gov.ph (go to downloads, competency-based Curriculum and look for Tungsten Arc Welding).

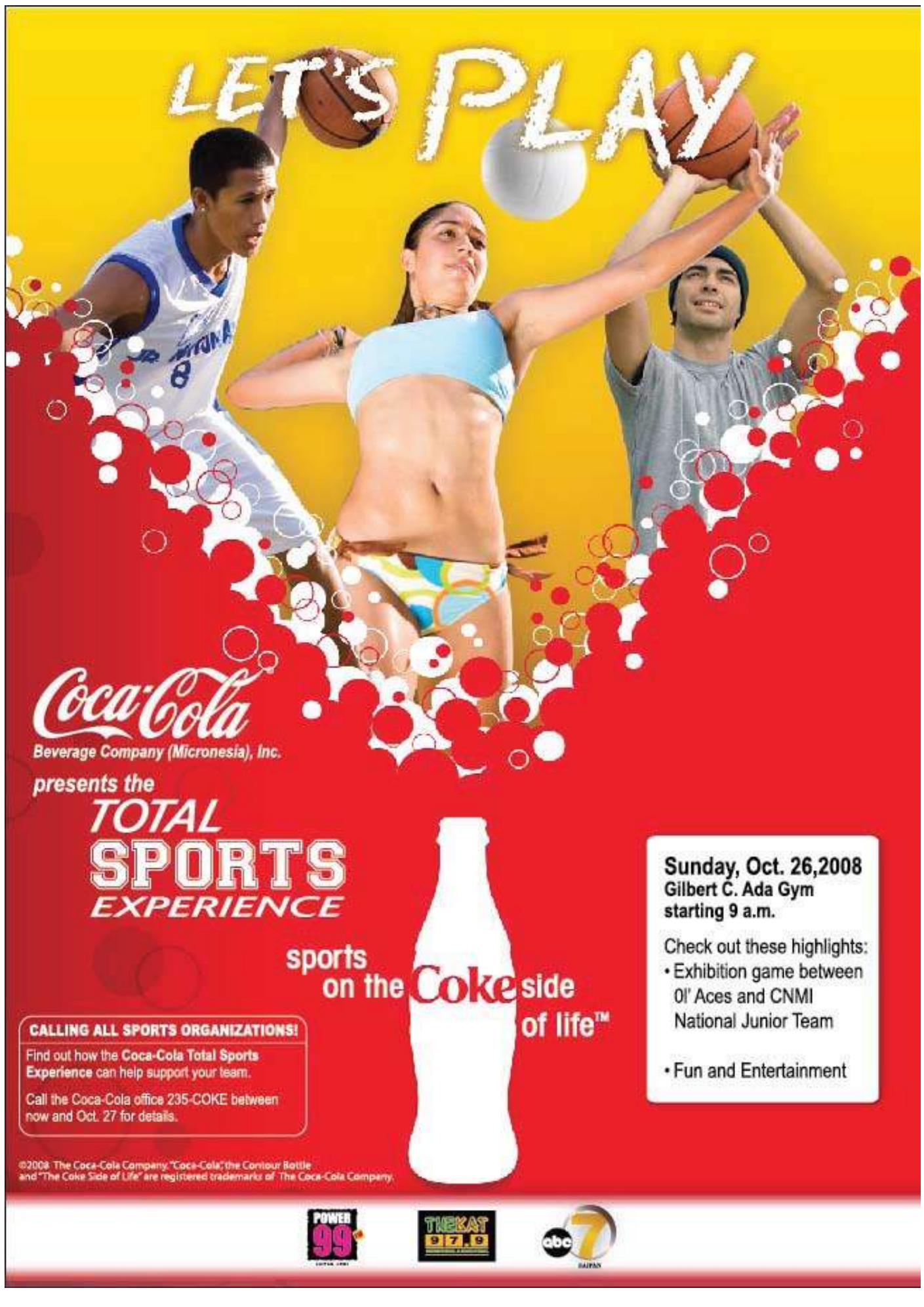
Interested parties must also indicate in their resumes the actual years of experience.

"We expect that all the information provided are true and accurate," Tantiado said.

Other in-demand categories are pipe fitters, sheet fitters and carpenters.

All resumes may be emailed to irenebdi@yahoo.com or mailed to Irene N. Tantiado, United Workers Movement, NMI, P.O. Box 504703, Saipan, MP 96950 not later than Nov. 15, 2008.

Tantiado emphasized that United Workers Movement, NMI is not collecting any fee from workers who are submitting resumes. If anyone has any information about people who are claiming to be part of our organization and collecting money, call Irene at 285 7717 or email her. ***(PR)***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Veterans write Bush to support marine monument

A group of local resident veterans have written letters to U.S. President George W. Bush concerning the proposed Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. The five veterans, all of whom are members of the Friends of the Monument, wrote letters in support.

Robert M. Power, Brad Doerr, and Billy Mott Jr. served in the U.S. Navy while Brad E. Ruszala served in the U.S. Army and Manny S. Villagomez served in the U.S. Marines.

Power, who is also known for his 20 years of service with the U.S. Postal Service, compared the spirit of conservation surrounding the designation of the Marianas Trench Monument to the legacy of another American conservationist, President Teddy Roosevelt. He wrote Bush that his "efforts will be praised for years to come by generations of Chamorros and Carolinians and people of many nations to enjoy their unspoiled beauty."

Ruszala, who earned a Southwest Asia Service Ribbon with two bronze service stars, told Bush that "if my voice counts for anything, I would like to add it to the chorus of voices calling for a the creation of a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument." Ruszala adds, "I may not have been born here, but this is my adopted home and I have no plans of ever leaving."

Villagomez is the oldest of the veterans. He was a Marine Scout for the United States during and immediately following World War II.

Villagomez' letter said that, "the only way for one of my great-great-grandchildren to experience the Saipan that I knew in the 1930's is for them to travel to one of the islands within the proposed monument."

The Friends of the Monument formed in the spring of 2008. Ignacio V. Cabrera chairs the group. ***(PR)***

Marpi area to be closed for detonation

The Marpi area will be closed off Friday next week, Oct. 24, 2008, for the detonation operation that will be conducted by the Department of Public Safety, the Emergency Management Office and the U.S. Navy explosives ordnance disposal unit. The area will be closed from 12pm to 2pm.

The only area that will not be closed off will be Suicide Cliff, which will be the main viewing point for the detonation. Public access to Suicide Cliff is allowed only through the road leading up to the Far East Broadcasting antenna for viewing purposes.

DPS will set security posts to enforce and control traffic movement for safety purposes. ***(PR)***

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

OCTOBER 17, 2000

Garment manufacturers see tough times ahead

Saipan's largest industry told Commonwealth government leaders this week that they expect rough times ahead as decreases in orders from garment buyers, rising costs of doing business, and labor difficulties are making business extremely tough for Saipan's garment factories. These concerns were raised in a round table forum between members of the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association (SGMA), Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, Senate President Paul A. Manglona, and Speaker of the House Benigno R. Fitial.

AGO warns legal action vs. EPA

The Office of the Attorney General has warned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX that it will take legal action against the federal agency if it fails to order the Department of Army to post signs and fence the 18 areas in the village to protect residents from the polychlorinated biphenyl contamination. According to Assistant Attorney General Murphy Peterson, the CNMI government will not hesitate to impose a fine of $25,000 per day for every violation in accordance with applicable laws if EPA ignores the directive.

Court rejects Puerto Ricans' bid to vote in presidential elections

BOSTON—A federal appeals court Friday ruled that residents of Puerto Rico can't vote in presidential elections unless the island territory becomes a state or the Constitution is amended. The ruling overturns a lower-court decision that said Puerto Rico's 2.4 million voters had the right to cast presidential ballots. The First U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals cited Article II of the Constitution, which says that only states can send electors to the Electoral College. Voters in the District of Columbia were granted presidential voting rights in 1961 by the 23rd Amendment.

OCTOBER 17, 2001

Anthrax scare reaches NMI

Panic gripped post office employees in Capitol Hill yesterday after a lady attendant spotted a suspicious-looking package, prompting her to call the Emergency Management Office. A white, powdery substance leaked from the package when the employee pulled out a box at the USPS in Capitol Hill, said Emergency Management Office Director Gregorio Deleon Guerrero.

DPH prepared vs anthrax spread

The local health department is prepared to treat anthrax cases just like any state in the US with its ready supply of antibiotics called ciproflaxin. The Department of Public Health has assured it is trained to respond to such cases, especially after undergoing a preparedness drill that dealt with measures against anthrax last June. "Just as any county or state, we are prepared. We have antibiotics typically-used to treat the disease. Ciproflaxin is a good medicine that treats both the skin and lung forms of the disease," said DPH Medical Director Dr. Richard Brostrom yesterday.

Tourist arrivals at an all-time low

The Marianas Visitors Authority recorded an all-time low of less than 30,000 visitors in September 2001, representing a 35.56 percent drop from the same month last year. Last month's arrival figure translates to a loss of some 15,000 tourists, or more than 17,000 visitors when compared with August 2001.

OCTOBER 17, 2002

Better 911 access mulled

Emergency response in the Northern Marianas is seen to approach exact science through a sophisticated telecommunications system that would allow authorities to view the exact addresses of persons dialing 911 for emergency assistance. The system, proposed under a House bill penned by Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, would only work, however, once the CNMI's street-naming project comes to completion.

NMI's location plays vital role for US

The Northern Marianas' location is strategic to the United States such that it can be tapped to assist U.S. forces in any military strike against Iraq in case a shooting war begins. However, the CNMI is not yet being asked to assist the U.S. in any military action, the Commonwealth Ports Authority said yesterday.

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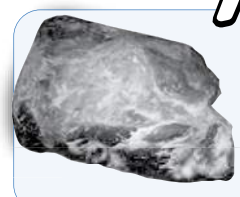

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Opinion

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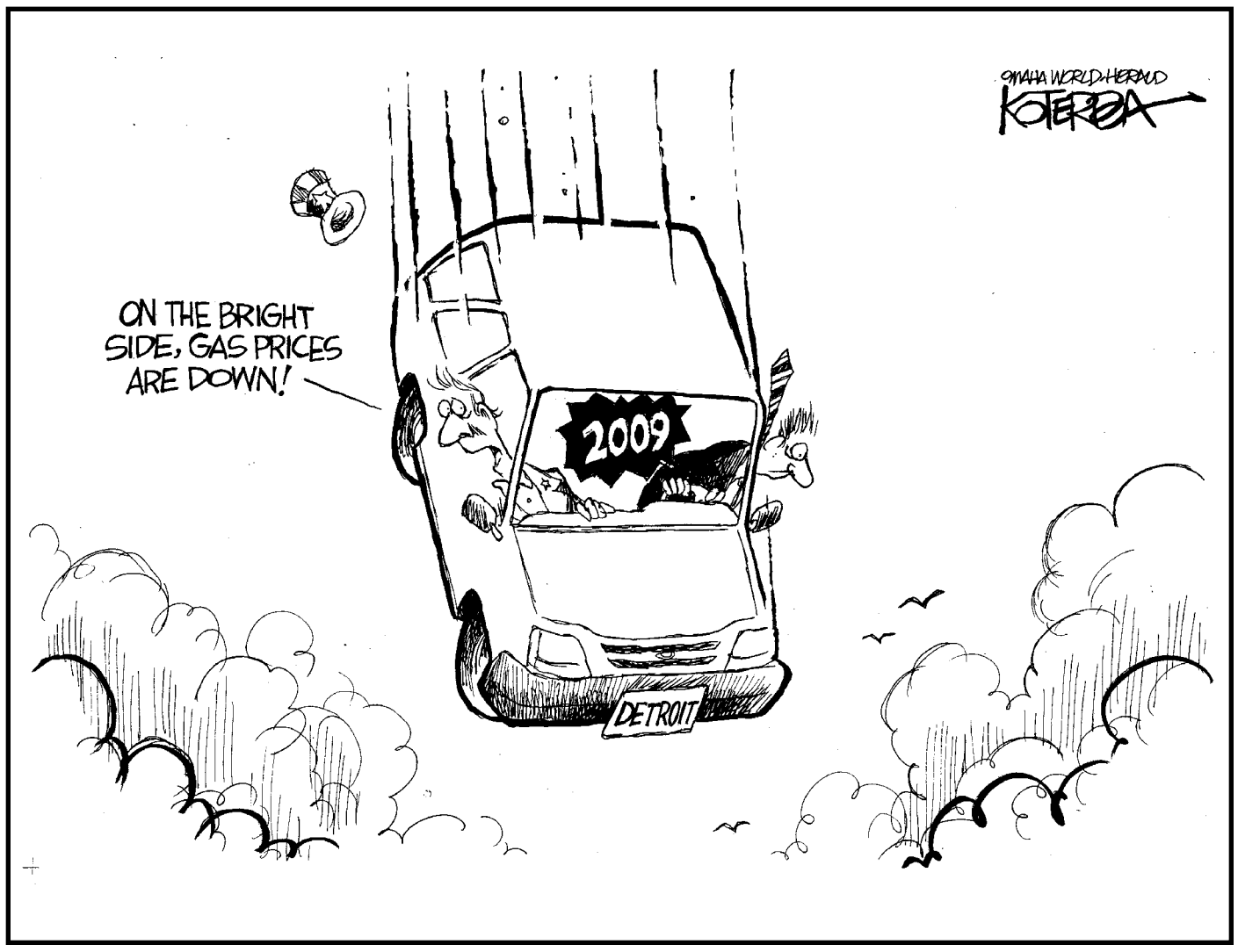


In Their Own Words

What makes you the best candidate for delegate to Congress?

The following are the responses of the Delegate candidates to questions posed by American government teacher Ambrose Bennett. The questions were posed to all nine Delegate candidates. This week, two submitted their responses by the deadline. This is the last part of the series.

By PETE A. TENORIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

The following points should be seriously considered by all voters as some of my truly unique attributes applicable to "Why I am the best candidate" to be your Delegate to Congress:

- Seven years have been spent working cordially and productively with members of both Houses of Congress and their staff.
- In addition to working relationships, friendships with members and staff have been developed. This will prove valuable in influencing legislation.
- Administration offices are very familiar. Here again, friendships and working relationships have been cultivated with officials and staff which will be a big asset.
- Considering that this position is only for two years, I am ready to "hit the ground running" to get things done for our people. I will not have to waste a year just learning the ropes.
- The staff of the Resident Representative's office are knowledgeable and experienced in dealing with all aspects of Washington, D.C. politics, both in Congress and the Administration. I hope to be able to bring at least part of this wealth of knowledge into your Delegate office. These staff will also not need a year just to learn what they should be doing.

The Washington Representative's Annual Report details many of the successes and accomplishments I have helped to bring about and of which am extremely proud. Please call my local office for a copy at 664-5651.

By CHONG MAN WON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

I believe I am the best candidate because I am not politically affiliated. I do not have anyone behind me pulling my strings and telling me what to do. There are people giving me advice and their opinions but at the end of the day, I know which are for their own interest and which are for the people's interest.

There are other candidates who desire to introduce legislation to help the CNMI. This is and always will be a part of the delegate's responsibility. However, this process will take time and in some instances, the entire two years will pass before any action is taken. For example, Representative Donna Christensen of the Virgin Islands introduced legislation in the 108th Congress to amend the Social Security Act to remove the cap on medical payments for Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, CNMI and American Samoa. This bill was introduce on Feb. 11, 2003 and was referred to the subcommittee on health on Feb. 26, 2003, which was the last major action. Again in the 109th Congress, Representative Christensen introduced the same legislation on Jan. 4, 2005, and on Feb. 4, 2005, it was referred to the subcommittee on health. In the 110th Congress, this time Representative Luis Fortuno of Puerto Rico introduced a similar bill to remove the cap medical payments for the insular areas on Jan. 22, 2007, and on Feb. 2, 2007, it was referred to the subcommittee on health. In the 109th Congress, Representative Christensen introduced legislation to convey certain submerge lands to the government of Virgin Islands on Jan. 6, 2005, which was referred to the committee on resources on Jan. 6, 2005. In the 110th Congress, Representative Christensen introduced the same legislation on Jan. 4, 2007, which again was referred to committee on natural resources and referred to subcommittee on insular affairs and on July 9, 2007, committee hearings were held. She also in the 110th Congress introduced a similar bill in June 28, 2007, except the distance requested was changed from 12 miles to 9 miles. This bill was also referred to committee on natural resources then referred to subcommittee on insular affairs. How about Representative Madeleine Bordallo from Guam? She introduced legislation in the 109th Congress to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to include Guam on June 15, 2005, and on June 15, 2005, it was referred to the committee on Judiciary. She again introduced the same legislation on Aug. 7, 2007 and on Sept. 10, 2007 it was referred to the subcommittee on immigration, citizenship, refugees, border security and international law. These are some examples of good intended legislations, out of many, to help their people, that have not been acted on by Congress. Don't get me wrong, we need to introduce legislations but we have to be realistic that it takes time for it to make a difference.

I believe we need to correct our basic necessities such as affordable, reliable and clean drinking water before we move on to other issues. This task is achievable in the next two years, which can benefit the lives of people within our community. There are federal assistances, which are already in place that can help. These are not handouts but programs and assistances other places are taking advantages of. Why should we be left behind? Some example of missed opportunities: On Sept. 8, 2008, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced $22.1 million in business development loans and grants for 71 recipients in 37 states and two territories. On Aug 27, 2008, USDA, "announced that 639 individuals and businesses in 43 states and the Virgin Islands have been selected to receive $35 million in grants and loan guarantees for renewable energy systems or to improve energy efficiency in farm and business operations." On Aug 22, 2008, USDA announced $677 million in loans for new electric lines and system improvements in 19 states. On Aug 15, 2008, USDA announced $547 million in loans and grants to provide safe drinking water and improved wastewater treatment systems for rural towns and communities. On July 30, 2008, USDA announced $447.5 million in loans to build new distribution lines and make system improvements for 24 rural utilities in 20 states. On May 30, 2008, USDA Rural Development announced that 17 organizations have been selected to receive $19.9 million to help rural residents and businesses become more energy efficient. The funds are being awarded through USDA Rural Development's High Energy Cost Grant program. Among the projects selected this year is a planned wind turbine and control system for the existing diesel generating plant serving the community of Kokhanok, Alaska. The wind diesel system, to be constructed with a $999,227 grant, is expected to save the community an estimated $100,000 a year in fuel costs. Under the USDA there are programs such as Assistance to High Energy Cost Communities, RUS High Energy Cost Grant Program, Rural Business Opportunity Grants and Bulk Fuel Revolving Fund Grant Program, just to name a few. We have to actively research and pursue them. I know people will say we are not eligible under these programs but isn't that the job of the delegate to find out why and how can we be eligible? There are other opportunities resulting from the 2008 Farm Bill and the Energy Independence and Security Act for the CNMI but we cannot just sit and expect that the United Congress will say, "here you go." These are other programs and grants to help education, health and even farmers and ranchers.

Instead of placing blames, we need to look at how we can help now and how we can better the lives of our people. If we continue to talk and make promises without actions, we will never move forward. Let's not be fooled by promises of fixing every problem in the CNMI because if you try to do 10 to 20 different things at once, we will have 10 to 20 unfinished items. Let's be focused on a few and accomplish them before moving on.

Again, I'd like to close by saying, "Some say he lacks experience but I say experience doesn't guarantee success. Look at where experience has led us. Lack of experience can be a good thing because it makes us ask 'WHY' and 'HOW' instead of 'IT WON'T WORK' and 'I KNOW BETTER'. It can motivate us and motivation leads to hard work and hard work leads to success. Some say he's an outsider but I say my wife (Dora Ulloa Palacios-Won) is local; my kids are local so how can I be an outsider? Please don't judge me for what I am but who I am, a husband, a father, your friend, your neighbor who is willing to make a difference for the betterment of the CNMI. Come this November 4th, I humbly ask for your vote of confidence.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

World Wide Woes

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

If my reckoning is correct, which would be the first time I've done anything right all day, then the *Saipan Tribune*'s web presence is near the decade milestone now. It's bad form to vomit up trite phrases like "time sure flies," but, well, darn, time sure flies.

The Internet is up there with sand and sunshine on the "count yer blessings" list in the CNMI. That's for good reason, of course, but I'll admit that web page writing, in particular, has zoomed way ahead of me, and I feel like I'm on the sidelines. Of course, I didn't have anything to do with the *Tribune*'s web presence; the web pros handled that.

But, still, am I the only one who is totally mystified by things like, say, CSS? Or Flash? Or PHP? Or JavaScript? Or Java applets? And surely a lot of other stuff that I'd be scared of, or confused by, if I even knew it existed?

Can we bring back the mid-1990s please? Web authorizing wasn't the sole domain of "professionals" back then. Average slobs like me could hand code basic HTML, put up a basic page which sufficed for our purposes, and that was the end of it.

So in the spirit of true atavism, sloth, and recalcitrance, my humble personal web site hasn't changed much in years. Once a month or so I get a missive asking if I'd like a pro to overhaul it for me. Well, thanks, but no. It suits its purpose just fine. After all, the line between dorky and retro is a fine one.

As cozy as that homemade cyber-hearth is, though, I wound up in the maw of needing to get a commercial web site built.

Yikes!

Now that's a true can of worms. A few days into the endeavor, and I've made no progress at all.

For example, the CSS (that's Cascading Style Sheets, should you care, which you probably shouldn't, unless you want a cascading migraine) gig has really got a spike into brain. I just read three chapters in three different books on CSS. It's all the same formula: They sing its praises, then clearly illustrate how not to use it, then close with warnings about its pitfalls. I'm lost.

Before someone snidely tells me to just hire a web designer, I'll note that I tried to do just that. I wound up blowing two hours looking at portfolios of web sites that all said as I tried to open them, "... LOADING...8 percent....LOADING...9 percent....CLICK HERE TO SKIP INTRO."

No thanks. Oh well, no problem, I thought, I'll just brush up on modern web authoring stuff before lunch time, and then after dinner I'll whip out a real gem of a page.

Yeah, right. Click here to skip lunch. And dinner. And Tuesday. And October. And 2008, from the looks of things.

I'll forge into just about anything, head first, to figure it out for myself, but I think this time around I have to admit defeat.

I know at least a couple of dozen people in the exact same situation. They're all small business owners. Oddly enough, the barriers to web site entry seem higher, not lower, than they did a dozen years ago, when a very simple site would keep everybody happy. I don't know if standards for acceptable-looking sites are any better now, but they're certainly more extravagant.

There are certainly many excellent web authors out there, of course, since the entire world is built around web sites. The problems arise from an inefficient market; the buyers, and the sellers, just can't find each other, at least in many cases that I've seen. You'd think it would be a commodity, and maybe it is and I'm just too stupid to know that end of the industry, but from what I see, it's often a word of mouth thing.

My solution in this case is simple: I appointed one of my co-workers to get this task done. The monkey is off my back, and I can go back to my really important duties, like monitoring the tread wear on my pickup truck tires.

Here's a better solution: Bring back 1994. That seems to be the point in history where I got off the technology bus, and I never caught another one.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preparedness is key to delegate position

Editor's Note: All delegate candidates are being given this one opportunity to make their case to our readers through this section for the duration of the election season. This is separate from the Candidate Forum initiated by American government teacher Ambrose Bennett, which ends with today's edition.

Dear friends (people of the Commonwealth):

All candidates have expounded their virtues as to why they are the best to represent the CNMI in the US House of Representatives and the promises of what they plan to do if elected.

This November 4 election is both a critical and a historical event. Your ability to send the right person to Washington is being challenged. The challenge that voters of the CNMI must decide for the CNMI delegate is beyond the usual politics of the past candidates for locally elected positions.

The CNMI delegate must have some basic criteria to bring to Washington. I humbly ask you, my dear people of the CNMI, to chose your delegate with this question: How prepared is the candidate for the position?

Preparedness for the delegate office goes well beyond academic achievement, community knowledge, or past public services.

The defining criteria for preparedness must meet two essential qualifications.

1. The delegate must have the ability to handle the pressures and demands of the job. Without this ability, opportunities for the CNMI will be lost. The demands of the U.S. Congress are great. With the demands are even greater opportunity. A qualified delegate will afford the CNMI positive results.

2. The delegate must have foresight and vision. The ability to communicate and present the interest of the CNMI, now and in the future, must not be compromised because of the lack of foresight. How will our economy be impacted by actions of Congress? How will our healthcare delivery be affected? What will be the impact to our homegrown servicemen and women? How do we protect and provide fair services to our veterans? There are many issues not addressed nor yet presented before Congress that the CNMI delegate must bring to Washington on behalf of CNMI and its citizens.

We cannot afford our Washington delegate to come before Washington for on-the-job training on the qualities above.

An effective member of the U.S. Congress must be able to understand, research, and communicate (listen and speak). The delegate will need to keep up with the many committee reports, testimonials, and transcripts, letters, draft bills, revisions to those draft bills, and the mountains of data, that are the basis for most congressional debates, hearings, inquiries, and panel discussions.

The CNMI delegate is a non-voting position in the House of Representatives. Thus, again, the qualification of our delegate is most important.

Our CNMI delegate must be able to dialogue with other members of Congress and earn the respect that allows for participation with critical committees that affect our islands. Our delegate must be viewed as the expert for CNMI issues and respected to earn the expectation to provide the issues and solutions that impact our islands.

I asked for your consideration on the right qualification of your CNMI delegate. With over 32 years of legal and public services experience, I have the qualifications to fully represent our interest before the U.S. Congress and bring positive results to our people of the CNMI. Your vote is more important on this historical event. I thank you. Please vote #4 on the ballot.

Juan Tudela Lizama
Delegate candidate to U.S. Congress

Misinformation, deception and lies: Another perspective

I thought Mr. Blalock raised an interesting issue in his "Food for Thought" commentary titled "*Misinformation, Deception and Lies"* on Sept. 12, 2008. He discussed several examples of what he believed was misinformation, deception and lies originating from those who oppose the Pew monument proposal. I share some of the same frustrations, though mine lie primarily with the Pew sponsored and funded monument campaign.

In the confusion over which group to point fingers at concerning who is disseminating the most misinformation, deception and lies, we should not lose sight of the role the Pew Charitable Trusts is playing in this issue. Pew unilaterally decided (with support from Council on Environmental Quality?) to implement what was to become a hostile campaign in the Marianas to force its people into accepting their version of a national marine monument. They are paying for full-time campaign employees and is actively orchestrating and funding their alter ego, the Friends of the Monument (FOMers). Since this is a Pew-led campaign and their purpose from Day 1 was to educate "us," I would expect some level of professionalism to ensure that accurate and factual information about their monument proposal is distributed.

It is my opinion that most, if not all, of the misinformation flying around the island is either directly or indirectly the fault of the Pew group. The basis for my opinion lies with Pew's miserable failure in "educating" the masses and their arrogance in working with people who have a different opinion than theirs. From Day 1, Pew has been insensitive to the numerous concerns raised by local islanders. From Day 1, Pew has made absolutely no attempt to incorporate any islanders' concerns into their proposal. And from Day 1, Pew has not deviated one inch from their 0- to 200-mile "no-take" monument proposal which utilizes the Antiquities Act. Based on my observations, I truly believe that Pew has no idea how to work *with* Pacific island communities, or how to properly develop marine protected areas in a fair and equitable manner where communities actually have a voice in determining the design and management approach. Pew is not unlike a selfish school yard bully—with a lot of money.

In contrast to the well-oiled (i.e., funded by Big Oil) and experienced Pew campaign machine, those that oppose the monument are not organized, have full-time jobs elsewhere, and must rely on hard-earned donated funds out of the pockets of concerned islanders.

Back to misinformation, deception and lies. Recently, Mr. Bogdan claims that a national monument would not "*be taking any rights away from the people of the CNMI...*" (LTE; Sept. 23, 2008, titled 'Law of the Sea'). This same message is echoed by Mr. Blalock with this claim: "*And we wouldn't have to give up any mining rights, fishing rights or rights to the water either, we don't have any*!" ('*Food for Thought'*; Sept. 12, 2008).

How many times does this issue need to be explained? Federal ownership of the waters surrounding Uracas, Maug and Asuncion is not the problem. The concern lies with the change of resource management authority from that of a sustainable resource use approach, (i.e., WesPac and National Marine Fisheries Service) to that of a preservationist approach being advocated by Pew (i.e., Antiquities Act in concert with the National Marine Sanctuaries Program).

Presently, the people of the CNMI have the *right* or *privilege* (or whatever other word you wish to use) to commercially and recreationally fish throughout the entire CNMI EEZ as long as the activity complies with federal and local fishery laws. Even though these waters are federally owned from 0 to 200 miles, the Magnuson-Stevens Act guarantees the people of the CNMI the *choice* whether to fish or not to fish. Through the various advisory panels and public outreach groups organized by WesPac, the people of the CNMI presently play an important and active role in co-managing fisheries within CNMI federal waters (the EEZ). Case in point is the recent recommendation by the WesPac Council for implementing a purse seine closure area in the Marianas EEZ. This proposed fishery management measure will go to NMFS for final action (accept as is, modify, or reject). This is fact.

If Pew's proposal is accepted and the national monument is designated, our *choice* to commercially and recreationally (likely) fish within monument waters will be *permanently taken away* by a combination of prohibitions normally included with actions associated with the Antiquities Act and transfer of management authority to the (NOAA) National Marine Sanctuary Program. The Magnuson-Ste-

See MISINFORMATION on Page 13

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

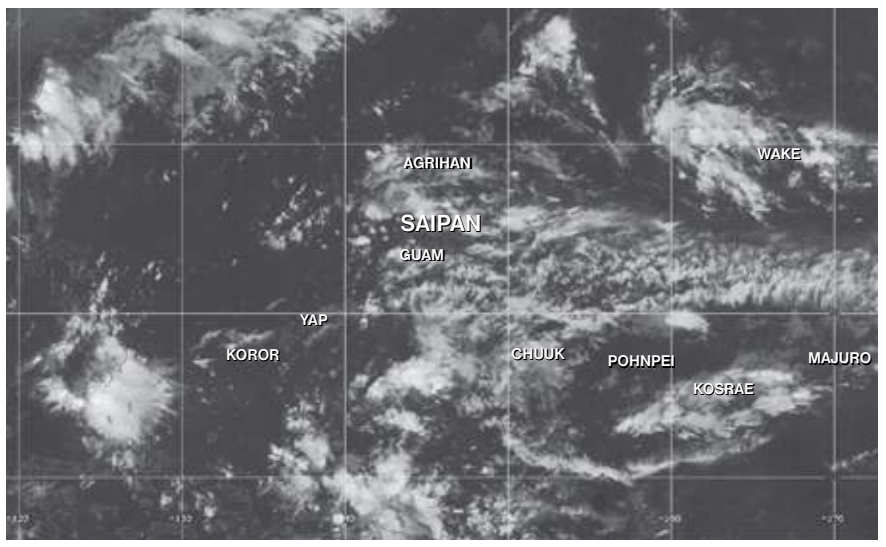
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲84	▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Yap	Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲61	▼54
Beijing	CLoudy	▲75	▼54
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼74
London	Cloudy	▲63	▼45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲88	▼58
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲77	▼63
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼75
New York	Partly Sunny	▲62	▼48
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲72	▼55
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼48
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼57
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲74	▼56
Salem	Cloudy	▲67	▼46
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼53
Seoul	Cloudy	▲76	▼55
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲70	▼59
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲67	▼50

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:15PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough stretches northeastward from the southern Philippines through an upper low centered north of Yap at 13N136E to another upper low centered west of Minamitori Shima at 25N150E then turns east-southeastward to a third upper low centered east of Wake Island at 17N176E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are forming near the trough axis just north of Saipan within 50 miles of a line from 16N141E to 16N146E and east of Saipan from 15N147E to 16N152E. Identical weather are also seen near Minamitori Shima or north of a line from 24N150E to 24N154E and near Wake Island within 90 miles of a line from 22N159E to 18N175E and 20N161E to 16N165E. A near-equatorial trough extends east-southeastward from a circulation over the southern Philippines to 2N142E and turns southward to end at EQ144E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring along the trough axis or south of a line from 5N137E to 1N144 aided by favorable upper-level dynamics. Similar conditions also exist north of the trough axis west of Chuuk within 70 miles of a line from 7N147E to 5N142E to 3N144E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers over Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 3N157E to 6N169E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:58AM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
9:48AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
3:22PM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:25PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09AM	5:55 PM
Saturday	6:09AM	5:55 PM
Sunday	6:09AM	5:54 PM
Monday	6:10AM	5:54 PM
Tuesday	6:10AM	5:53 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:49PM	8:15AM
Saturday	8:49PM	9:21AM
Sunday	9:53PM	10:27AM
Monday	10:58PM	11:28AM
Tuesday		12:24PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5

Saipan-Shanghai

FM 844	3:15am	5:55am	2,6

Rota-Guam

CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7

Guam-Manila

CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7

Shanghai-Saipan

FM 843	7:50pm	2:15am+1	1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6

Manila-Guam

CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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Conspiracy theory

The joint federal and local Drug Enforcement agents should be commended for their actions in ensuring that the war against drugs is very much alive within our community. What transpired recently at the airport with the inbound Chinese tourists was unfortunate, but there is no excuse when there is probable cause, especially in the importation of illegal drugs.

There *is* an epidemic in the importation of illegal drugs, especially crystal meth, to the CNMI and 80 to 90 percent of recent drug busts involved Chinese nationals selling this drug on our streets. The most recent case was the individual who used a school bus stop as his drop-off or pick-up point. What's next? Are we to wait until these illegal drug activities hit the classrooms? Who is going to be responsible? The Chinese government?

We agree that tourism is our main industry but we disagree with the governor's conspiracy theory because the Drug Enforcement Administration was just acting according to its mandate. This issue now raises a huge question in the integrity of our government. Is the governor now promoting the idea that DEA should give immunity or special privileges to inbound tourist and exempt them from random searches or pat-downs and let them walk right through our borders regardless if there is probable cause that a passenger might be carrying illegal drugs? The other question is what has the local government done to deter such illegal activities?

As the governor, it is your duty to evaluate and control the situation, but to be biased in the name of tourism is highly inappropriate, especially when you denounce and penalize our own local enforcement officers publicly. We commend the efforts of all the men and women in uniform who put their lives at risk daily including their family to keep the CNMI safe and out of harm's way.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
President, Taotao Tano

MISINFORMATION

From Page 11

vens Act will no longer be the primary resource management authority and the CNMI will lose the *right* to use those natural resources in a responsible and sustainable manner. This is fact.

A similar situation exists for the CNMI's *right* or *privilege* to promote and support the exploration options for oil, gas, and mineral extraction within the CNMI EEZ through the (DOI) Minerals Management Service (when and if CNMI submerged lands come under their jurisdiction). This is fact. Because this issue has been previously discussed, I won't go any further and bore you with the details.

With all due respect to Mr. Bogdan and Mr. Blalock's opinion, their claim that the people of the CNMI will not lose any rights should the Pew national monument proposal be designated has absolutely no basis of fact. Is this an example of misinformation, deception or lies?

Do you remember the recent *Saipan Tribune* article dated Sept. 20, 2008 and titled "*2 ConCon members back monument plan"*? The article was based on two letters written by Mr. Karl Reyes and Dr. Jack Tenorio. While Mr. Reyes letter was published on Sept. 19, 2008 and also posted on the FOM website (http://marianamonument.blogspot.com/2008/09/uncle-karls-letter.html), the FOMers were very quiet about Dr. Tenorio's letter. The reason Dr. Tenorio's letter was not publicized is because he doesn't support the Pew monument proposal! To be fair, he didn't oppose it either. He was simply requesting that the Legislature refrain from passing a resolution in opposition to the Pew monument proposal. He states: "*While I am not familiar enough with the costs and benefits of such a proposal to support it*…" Would this newspaper article be an example of misinformation, deception or lies?

On the other hand, Mr. Reyes' letter discussed his experience in being a member of the 2nd ConCon during1985 and discussed the reasons why the islands of Uracas and Asuncion were designated as wildlife conservation areas. My understanding of Mr. Reyes' letter is that the intention was "*to protect all the resources in the far north*". However, they were not able to due to the federal government having "*jurisdiction from the high water mark out to 200 nautical miles.*" My layman's view of this issue is that members of the 2nd ConCon had several legal options available to them that would enable them to covert the oceanic waters/resources surrounding Uracus and Asuncion to conservation areas: the Marine Sovereignty Act of 1980 and Submerged Lands Act of 1979. Keep in mind that these two Acts were not declared invalid by the federal courts until 2005, some 20 yeas after the 2nd ConCon. For reasons unknown to me, they chose not to exercise their authority.

While conservation ethics are certainly a traditional value of Marianas culture, so is the responsible and sustainable use of our natural resources. For example, one of the stated purposes in the Marine Sovereignty Act is "*to ensure the continued availability of such (marine) resources for future generations by establishing jurisdiction over such resources.*" "*Availability*" is the key word here—it doesn't mean to lock up the marine resources and throw away the key and it doesn't mean to give ultimate resource management authority to the federal government. Perhaps this is the reasoning behind why the 2nd ConCon didn't convert the waters surrounding the northernmost islands into a conservation area.

Despite Pew's rhetoric, the position taken by those opposing the monument is far more in line with the original intent of the conservation objective included in the CNMI Constitution than what is being proposed by Pew. The Pew proposal permanently diminishes local management control and use of marine resources—the complete opposite of those principles that were embodied in the now invalid CNMI Submerged Lands Act and Marine Sovereignty Act. Never in their wildest dreams would the authors of the CNMI Constitution believe there might be a day when the people of the CNMI would not be able to sustainably use the fishery, oil, gas and mineral resources within a significant portion of their EEZ due to a unilateral federal action that ignores the Covenant agreement. Additionally, I just can't believe they would sit still about having to request written permission from the federal government to enter their ancestral waters surrounding the conservation islands! It's one thing for the CNMI Constitution to designate our northern islands as conservation areas under the local management authority of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. However it's quite another to have the federal government unilaterally take away our *choice* to fish and explore oil, gas and mineral extraction opportunities over 115,000 square miles of EEZ simply for the political gain of an outgoing president. This is political environmentalism at its worst!

Pew's recent campaign tactic of trying to discredit those opposing their monument proposal as disseminating misinformation, deception and lies is a sure sign of a desperate and decaying crusade that has absolutely nothing to lose. When will the school yard bully acknowledge that the CNMI does not want *their* national marine monument proposal and stop their campaign of half-truths and, dare I say, lies? No matter how one looks at it, creation of a national marine monument via the Antiquities Act and the adoption of Pew's "no-take" management scheme for 115,000 square miles of our EEZ is an insult to Marianas island culture and to all future generations of indigenous Pacific islanders. The people of the CNMI should be proud in standing up and rejecting the monument proposal being advocated by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

John Gourley
Navy Hill, Saipan

Farewell, our friend

We would like people to know how Jul has impacted our lives. He was my husband's OIC (officer in charge), mentor, and close friend. He always encouraged and praised Chris for all the good things he did when no one did. Jul was a big part of our family. We are still in complete shock; it really hurts to lose a friend. Coming to grips with this is going to be very difficult. Jul never showed vulnerability, he was so strong and active. We will always remember his smile, positivity, humility, and will always cherish the memories that we shared with him. To Uncle Ben, Auntie Rit, Brenda, and the girls: Please know that we are so sorry and that we share with you all the loss of this great man. And to Jul, "Sarge": Thank you so much for being that rock and that push in our shove, without you we wouldn't be in the place we are today. We love you and we will miss you so very much. 'Til we meet again!

Chris and JoVon Pascua
Tampa, Florida

Suspended campaign

I regret to inform the general public that I am postponing my campaign schedule for this Saturday, Oct. 18, 2009, here on Saipan, until such time that the Senate clears the matter involving Department of Public Lands and my brother Ray.

I strongly feel that my brother may have not done anything wrong but the mere fact that these allegations are being discussed is troublesome for me since I have been a strong advocate of clean and honest government.

I want the Senate Committee chaired by Sen. Jude Hofschneider to advise me if indeed these allegations have been cleared by Department of Public Lands or not. Once we clear these issues I can continue on with our plan to hold a campaign on Saipan so that our voters may have the opportunity to learn of our good plans for the Commonwealth before Election Day.

Again, I apologize to my supporters and the general public for this setback and I continue to seek your support and prayers.

David M. Cing
Tinian

Bargaining of, for, and by teachers

It is very clear to me now that the plan is to give teachers a Teacher Rep but *not* to bargain with teachers. I should have known it was too good to be true when the governor called for an "exclusive bargaining group of teachers" to conduct an election for the Teacher Rep position. The problem has never been getting a Teacher Rep but the efforts to prevent teachers from exercising their right to bargain with the Public School System. The opportunity to get bargaining power is what teachers really need to be concerned about, especially when PSS, the Board of Education and the governor are only talking to an administrator to solve a teacher requirement.

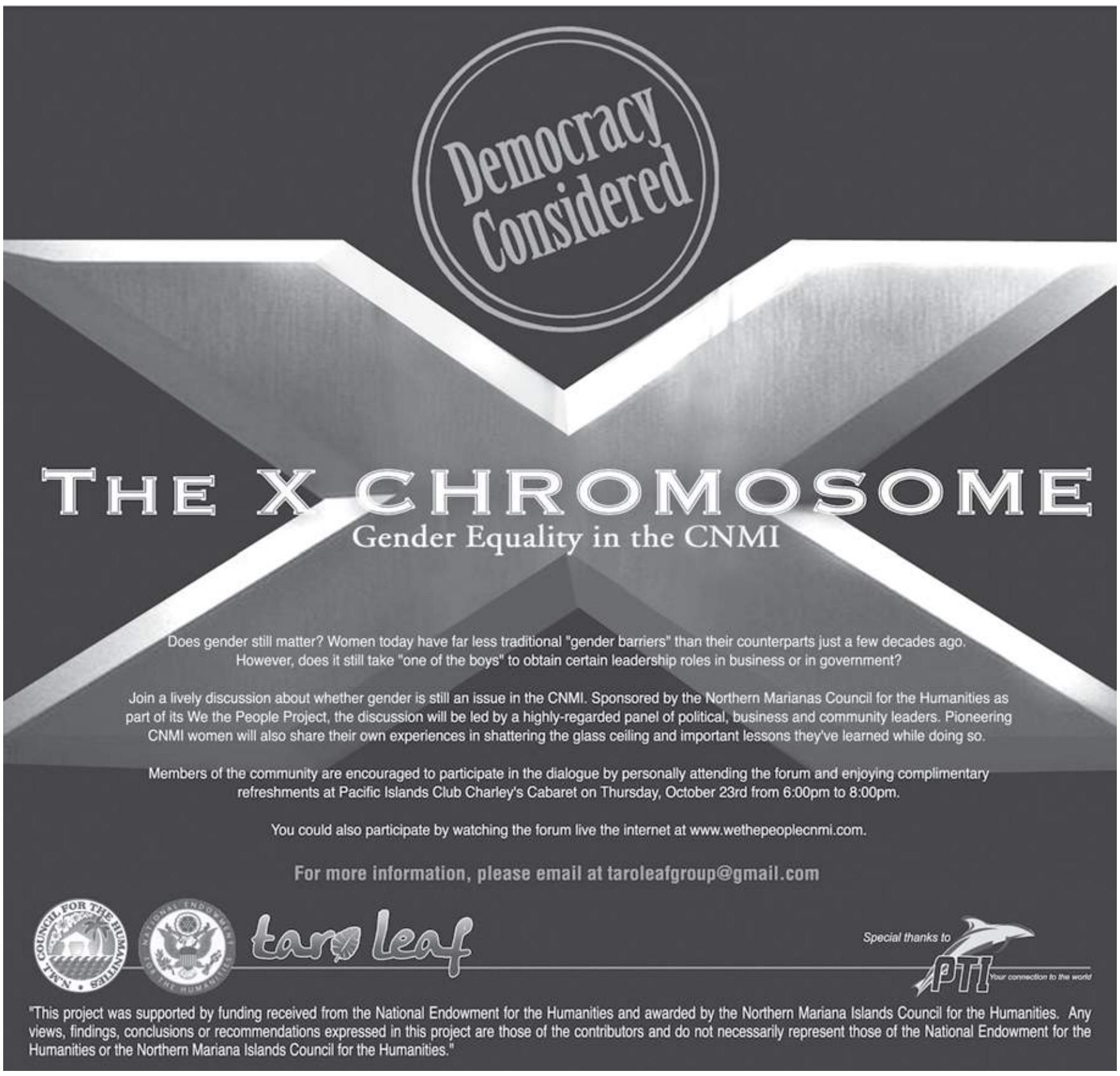
Just to show you what I mean: If teachers are recognized and decide they want to bargain for permanent contracts or a change in the PRAXIS requirements, which side of the table will the ACT administrator sit—with teachers or administrators? It should be clear that she will have a conflict regardless of which side she's on because she is literally straddling the fence as both an administrator and teacher. The previous COE ignored this fact but I hope our new Commissioner will define the limits of an administrator's involvement with teachers' constitutional rights. I don't have anything against Ms. Miller or ACT. But I refuse to stand by and see the governor sell out teachers to a person who doesn't have the consent of all teachers to be their representative and one who can't ethically represent teachers at the bargaining table or in any negotiations with the administration.

As for Mr. Francisco R. Agulto's interpretation about the law on collective bargaining, it is clear that he doesn't know what he is talking about. Every teacher working under the American flag in the mainland and Guam are protected by federal law and they have the power and are exercising their power to bargain with their school system—except for teachers in the CNMI. There is no such thing as a federal law that only applies to the private sector when it comes to collective bargaining and you would have to be ignorant of the principles governing the law and the bargaining process to interpret the law in this way. If the governor tries to give teacher's bargaining rights away without due process, Mr. Agulto and the governor will find out that federal law does protect CNMI teachers in the Public School System and I will personally file the federal complaint.

If the governor and/or the board truly want to resolve this matter, they will issue a statement to all teachers on what they feel is required of teachers to have a recognized exclusive bargaining representative and leave it up to all teachers—not just ACT. It is already law as to what is necessary for any group to bargain and teachers are not required by any federal or CNMI law to create a non-profit cooperation (or) have a union to bargain. The basis of the law is simple—50 percent + 1 teacher with equal representation. We call it the application of democracy and republicanism, which are the only two principles required by the U. S. government for the creation of the Commonwealth, which speaks volumes to the power of these two principles.

The governor stuck his foot in his mouth by admitting teachers need to have an exclusive bargaining representative of teachers. Now that he has rung the bell, he can't un-ring it nor can he avoid federal law, which is something our government is famous for trying to do. The governor's refusal to appoint me was really a demonstration that he doesn't want the the body of teachers to have a head so the body will remain powerless. The Governor may have achieved this small victory to cut off the head of teachers but as a certified HQT I have the power to ask for federal enforcement of my rights to bargain—meaning the governor won a small battle but he will lose the war.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Former BOE Teacher Rep


Democracy Considered
THE X CHROMOSOME
Gender Equality in the CNMI
Does gender still matter? Women today have far less traditional "gender barriers" than their counterparts just a few decades ago. However, does it still take "one of the boys" to obtain certain leadership roles in business or in government?
Join a lively discussion about whether gender is still an issue in the CNMI. Sponsored by the Northern Marianas Council for the Humanities as part of its We the People Project, the discussion will be led by a highly-regarded panel of political, business and community leaders. Pioneering CNMI women will also share their own experiences in shattering the glass ceiling and important lessons they've learned while doing so.
Members of the community are encouraged to participate in the dialogue by personally attending the forum and enjoying complimentary refreshments at Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret on Thursday, October 23rd from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.
You could also participate by watching the forum live the internet at www.wethepeoplecnmi.com.
For more information, please email at taroleafgroup@gmail.com
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Thank you

When John H. Davis Jr. first decided to run for the position of Delegate to the U.S. Congress, many of those who signed his nomination petition did not know John but they did know they were looking for someone to make a difference and they wanted to hear what he had to say. They were tired of the same old politics.

Let me take this time to thank all of you who have assisted and participated in the community meetings and last week's public forum to meet John Davis, listened to his views, and offered your thoughts and concerns on the issues to be faced by the Delegate to U.S. Congress.

If you have not yet met and talked with John or heard him speak on the issues that will face our Delegate, please check out davisforcongress.blogspot for more information about John Davis and what others say about him.

If you and your family and friends are unable to join us for the public forum, but would like to meet with John, please call me and we will arrange a convenient time and place for you all to get together.

Well-informed voters are essential to our democratic form of government. Please help us insure that our citizens are well-informed and vote intelligently on Nov. 4.

Jeanne H. Rayphand
Via email

Off the Beaten Path presents a Golf Tournament to benefit the CHC Volunteers Association

When: Saturday, October 18, 2008
Show: 6:00 a.m. -Shotgun: 7:30 a.m.
Laolao Bay Golf Resort, West Course

Championship, A,B, C - medal play
Seniors/Ladies - Double Peoria
1st Place - $300
2nd Place - $200
3rd Place - $100
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Shell Marianas - 15,000 cash #7
Asiana Airlines - Roundtrip to SE Asia/China-#13
Triple J Motors - Mazda SE Truck #17
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BE WISE, KNOW *your* RISK!

Here is a quick quiz to find out your risk of a heart attack. If you don't know some of the answers, check with your health care provider.

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
Do you smoke?			
Is your blood pressure 140/90 mmHg or higher, OR have you been told by your doctor that your blood pressure is too high?			
Has your doctor told you that your total cholesterol level is 200 mg/dL or higher, OR your HDL (good cholesterol) is less than 40 mg/dL?			
Has your father or brother had a heart attack before age 55, OR has your mother or sister had one before age 65?			
Do you have diabetes OR a fasting blood sugar of 126 mg/dL or higher, OR do you need medicine to control your blood sugar?			
Are you over 55 years old?			
Do you have a body mass index (BMI) score of 25 or more?			
Do you get less than a total of 30 minutes of physical activity on most days?			
Has a doctor told you that you have angina (chest pains), OR have you had a heart attack?			

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you're at an increased risk of having a heart attack.

To learn more, visit www.hearttruth.gov
Source: The Healthy Heart Handbook for Women, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (2007).

To learn more, please call the Division of Public Health – Wise Women Project at 234-8950 ext. 2141

The Wise Women Project is federally funded by the US DHHS Office on Women's Health ASIST2010 Initiative.

MICROL TOYOTA

SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

2001 4RUNNER 4WD V6
Auto, Beige, Stock: U07-064T
License: ABY-153
Mileage: 56882
~~PRICE $14,599~~
REDUCED PRICE
$12,599

USED CARS

STOCK	YEAR	MODEL	TRANS.	MILEAGE	COLOR	LICENSE #	PRICE	REDUCED PRICE
TOYOTA SEDANS								
R08-015F	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	59734	WHITE	ADJ-831	9,299	
R08-018F	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	44981	WHITE	ABY-667	8,199	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO		WHITE	ACD-346	10,799	
R08-011F	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	65940	SILVER	ACC-154	11,399	
R08-008F	2006	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	18576	BEIGE	ADN-161	15,999	
U08-043P	2000	CELICA 2DR	MANUAL	72097	BLUE	ABZ-838	7,999	
GM CARS								
R08-014F	2006	AVEO 4DR.	AUTO	33945	WHITE	ADS-642	9,999	
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	~~9,599~~	6,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	9,499
LEXUS								
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO	54477	IVORY	ADU-502	~~29,999~~	26,899
TOYOTA TRUCKS								
R07-038F	2004	TACOMA 4X2 XTRACAB	AUTO	49609	BEIGE	ABV-159	~~11,899~~	10,599
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U07-106P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	53147	SILVER	ADF-401	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-107P	2004	HONDA CIVIC DX 4DR	AUTO	48755	SILVER	ADF-421	~~8,999~~	7,999
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	~~10,999~~	8,399
U07-104T	2003	NISSAN MURANO SE	AUTO	32000	PEWT	ABZ-615	~~16,799~~	15,299
U08-035T	2000	NISSAN ALTIMA GXE 4DR SDN	AUTO	64846	GREEN	ABS-748	6,999	
U08-038T	2001	MITS MONTERO WGN	AUTO	93155	BEIGE	CVS-88	7,999	
U07-095T	1999	MAZDA MILLENIA 4DR.SEDAN	AUTO	91014	SILVER	ABP-583	~~7,999~~	5,399
GM VAN								
R08-017F	2003	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	117560	WHITE	BUS-1077	9,499	
GM SPORT UTILITY								
U08-036T	2002	TRAILBLAZER 4WD	AUTO	36460	RED	ACB-993	9,999	
SPORT UTILITY								
U07-050T	2002	RAV4 4DR 4WD	AUTO	39182	WHITE	ABW-677	~~13,699~~	12,799
R08-007F	2006	RAV4 4DR 2WD LTD	AUTO	20311	WHITE	ACE-344	~~19,185~~	19,099

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TOYOTA ACDelco

Swiss govt examines climate change in Pacific

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

APIA, Samoa—Despite being thousands of miles away, the government of Switzerland is taking an active role in finding ways to combat climate change.

"We are a small country far away with no colonial ties," yet there are several important reasons why Switzerland should take interest in the Pacific Islands, Beat Nobs, Switzerland government ambassador to the Pacific Island nations said Tuesday at the region's Climate Change Roundtable.

"Climate change is a global threat. Global threats need to be addressed globally, not just here or there," he said.

It's important to look to see what others are doing to alleviate the problem, especially within the Pacific, "because you are among the most vulnerable," he told a group of more than 100 representatives from Pacific nations and officials from environmental agencies.

David Hunter read a speech prepared by Patrick Nunn, who was unable to attend the conference due to personal reasons. Nunn is a professor of Oceanic Geoscience at the University of the South Pacific with Hunter.

During the speech, he said the earth's temperature has risen significantly this century and will continue to rise. In the Pacific region, experts estimate there will be a 2 to 3 degree Celsius increase in the Pacific. Sea levels are rising, and if they continue to rise as projected, entire villages will find themselves underwater and forced to relocate, Hunter said. Rising sea levels will also cause salt water to intrude into coastal groundwater and kill or bleach coral, including Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Nunn has proposed five ways to manage climate change. First, each country needs to take ownership of the problem; secondly, countries must form a long-range plan; thirdly, awareness must be mainstreamed, which will help achieve the fourth goal of empowering the community. The final step in managing climate change is to relocate the community.

"For many this is a complete unthinkable option," Hunter said, "but there's no way to get around it," adding that some places in the Pacific region won't be habitable 20 years from now.

The roundtable is not an opportunity to cast blame or to talk politics, said Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, Samoa's Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

"Opportunities exist to share experiences and work together," he said.

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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
Birthday greetings go out to Maggie M. Cabrera. With love always from her grandchildren, familia and friends, especially the "1957 Crew."
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

It's underwater pumpkin carving season again

Marianas Dive will be hosting the Annual Saipan Underwater Pumpkin Carving Contest on Saturday, Oct. 25 at Obyan Beach.

To join in on the fun just bring $5 for registration, a pumpkin, something to carve with and your scuba gear. The contest is open to all certified divers, residents and visitors alike.

Registration starts at noon and a Marianas Dive Club t-shirt will be given to the first 20 people to register.

The dive will begin at 1:30pm and carvers will have 60 minutes to carve their pumpkin (unless they run out of air first!). Pumpkins may be gutted prior to entering the water but must have no visible designs on them. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Marianas Dive will also be selling barbecue hamburgers and snacks for just $3 from noon until the event is over. Anyone who wants to watch but not participate is welcome to come out and enjoy the sun, fun and this unique and creative contest you won't want to miss with Marianas Dive.

ON THE NET
www.marianasdive.com

"Last year was a lot of fun and there were some awesome pumpkins carved and great prizes given away. We had people carving with everything from a dive knife to a full set of pumpkin carving tools. We expect it to be even bigger and better this year," said Susan Marchitti of Marianas Dive.

Marianas Dive is a local scuba diving organization created not only to bring diving enthusiasts together to enjoy and help preserve the CNMI's world-class marine environment, but also to promote the Northern Mariana Islands as an internationally renowned diving destination. Check out their website and forum at www.marianasdive.com.

Any questions contact Mark James at m.james@underexposed.us or 256-1091 in the evenings. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Martin Angelo Pangilinan, who is turning seven today, Oct. 17. He will celebrate his birthday tomorrow, Oct. 18, at Saipan Grand Hotel. Greetings come from Susan and Martin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everly Pangilinan, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Free forum examines gender issues in CNMI

Does gender still matter? Women today have far less traditional "gender barriers" than their counterparts just a few decades ago. However, does it still take "one of the boys" to obtain certain leadership roles in business or in government?

Residents are invited to join a lively discussion titled "The X Chromosome: Gender Equality in the CNMI," which explores gender issues in the CNMI.

ON THE NET
www.wethepeoplecnmi.com

Sponsored by the Northern Marianas Council for the Humanities as part of its We the People Project and organized by Taro Leaf Inc., the discussion will be led by a highly regarded panel of political, business and community leaders. Pioneering CNMI women will also share their own experiences in shattering the glass ceiling and important lessons they've learned while doing so. Other topics will include other key issues facing today's women.

Moderated by Frances Sablan, the confirmed panelists and include Sen. Maria "Frica" Pangelinan, attorney Rebecca Warfield, former NMC president Agnes McPhetres, businesswoman Kimberly King-Hinds, and other notable individuals.

Members of the community are encouraged to participate in the dialogue by personally attending the forum and enjoying complimentary refreshments at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret on Thursday, Oct. 23 from 6pm to 8pm.

Off-island residents can also participate by watching the forum live the Internet at www.wethepeoplecnmi.com. Instructions on submitting questions and comments can be found on the site.

For more information, email at taroleafgroup@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Fund's money managers bullish on Red Cross

At the recent meeting of the 8th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference in Manila, the Philippines, several of the NMI Retirement Fund's money managers showed their continuing support for the CNMI by making donations to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter.

"It's great to see that these firms recognize a commitment to help those in need in communities in which they do business," said John Hirsh, Red Cross executive director. "Even though they may not have an office here in the Commonwealth, they're supporting the local work and the Red Cross mission of improving lives here in our community."

Donations ranging up to $10,000 were received from Renaissance Investment Management, Atalanta Sossnoff, Merrill Lynch, Richmond Capital Management, Nicholas Appelgate CM LLC, and Franklin Templeton Institutional.

These companies handle the international investment portfolio of the Fund, under the general supervision of Merrill Lynch. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Front to back, from left, Kenan Knieriem of Merrill Lynch, Fund trustees Pete Dela Cruz and Juan Lizama, Kirk Taniguchi of Merrill Lynch, Fund trustees Marian Tudela and Dicta Torres, and Fund board chair Juan Guerrero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fund board of trustees chair Juan Guerrero, left, and trustee Juan Lizama, right, flank James Staub of Atalanta Sossnoff.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Patton Roark of Richmond Capital Management, left, poses with Fund trustee Pete Dela Cruz, who is showing off the checks that Richmond Capital is donating to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust have scheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on **Friday, October 17, 2008 beginning at 6:00 PM** and **Saturday, October 18, 2008 beginning at 2:00 p.m. on the 1st Floor of the Morgen Building, Suite #107; Saipan, MP.**

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

II CONSULTANT REPORTS
- Legal Counsel Reports*
- Board Consultant Reports
  - Financial Statements – August 2008
  - Flash Reports – September 2008
- Loan Administrator Reports
- Investment Consultant Reports

III CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
- Land Acquisition Matters
- Board/Administrative Matters: Policy Review

IV OLD BUSINESS
- Tinian Public Market
- IPS Review - ETI
- Website Review and Selection
- House Legislative Initiatives

V NEW BUSINESS
- MPLT Resolution 09-01: Home Loan Program
- Saipan Trust Fund Liquidation

VI EXECUTIVE SESSION

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

VII MISCELLANEOUS

VIII ADJOURNMENT

* It is anticipated that the following matters will be discussed under Executive Session in its entirety.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Alvaro A. Santos
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

CARMENT T. ANDON and SAMUEL M. ANDON (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 22, 2004, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on November 2, 2004, under Document No. 04-2544 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 308, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 797 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 G 06, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4414, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$61,150.00.** Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$61,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

ELOY T. DELA CRUZ and SHIRLEY ANN R. DELA CRUZ (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 23, 2002, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 29, 2002, under Document No. 02-2209 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Lot No. 002 G 263, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1904, dated May 14, 1990, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$57,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$57,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

CELINA M. SETEFANO and VILIAMI S. SETEFANO (collectively "Trustor"), on or about August 2, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on August 3, 1983, under Document No. 17659 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 002 F 67, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 1,230 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 002 F 00, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 691, ON THE 1ST DAY OF MARCH, 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$52,940.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$52,940.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Students vie for prizes in traveling photo exhibit

Photos could speak a thousand words, especially when describing how a culture has influenced an entire community.

Taro Leaf, Inc. and the Northern Mariana Islands Council on the Humanities, through a grant provided by the National Endowment on the Humanities We the People program, is showcasing over 30 photos from students all across the CNMI that reflect on what their culture has contributed to the community.

Tinian High School, Mt. Carmel High School, Chacha Ocean View Junior High School, Saipan Community School, Dandan Elementary School and Kagman Elementary School participated in the contest called "My Photo, My Culture 2008."

ON THE NET
www.wethepeoplecnmi.com

The photos are on display on the first ever CNMI traveling photo exhibit, which started last weekend at Tinian Youth Center, then heading to the Rota Youth Center today and finally on Saipan at the Pacific Islands Club main lobby from October 24-30, which is also in celebration of Humanities Month.

"We are pleased that the students were able to showcase their talent and creativity through photography. This is a wonderful way of sharing the diverse cultures here in the CNMI," said Taro Leaf project coordinator Laila Y. Boyer.

After the traveling exhibit, the student photographs will be judged according to the following criteria:

Relevancy to Topic: Is the photo an obvious illustration of a culture in the CNMI? Does it follow the artistic interpretation of how this culture has contributed to the community?

Composition/Arrangement: Are the objects in the photo arranged in a meaningful, pleasing manner or are they "haphazard"? Did the photographer use the best angle or otherwise interesting perspective?

Focus/Sharpness: Is the object of the photo in focus? If not in sharp focus, does it appear to be an intentional effect to enhance the image in some "artistic" way?

Creativity: Does the photographer show some creative thought or original idea in the making of this image?

The first and second place winners will receive up to $500 in cash and other prizes for their schools.

Special thanks to the Tinian Mayor's Office, the Rota Mayor's Office and the Pacific Islands Club. For more information, visit www.wethepeoplecnmi.com. ***(PR)***

Applicants sought for US High Court fellowship program

The Supreme Court of the United States is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 Supreme Court Fellows Program.

According to United States Chief Justice John G. Roberts "The program offers an opportunity to learn about and contribute to the administration of justice at a national level."

Each year four Fellows are selected to spend one year at the United States Supreme Court, the Federal Judicial Center, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, or the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

The program seeks applicants from a variety of backgrounds, but all interested individuals must have at least one postgraduate degree, two or more years of professional experience with a record of high performances, and multidisciplinary training and experience, including familiarity with the judicial process.

ON THE NET
www.fellows.supremecourtus.gov

Additional information is available at www.fellows.supremecourtus.gov, and brochures are available at the office of the CNMI Supreme Court Clerk, located in the Guma Hustisia, Susupe. ***(PR)***

Red flag up at 11 Saipan beaches

The Division of Environment Quality has raised the red flag on 11 beach sites on Saipan and is warning the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are Pau Pau Beach, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, South Puerto Rico, American Memorial Park, Hafa Adai Hotel, Hafa Adai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach drainage, and Chalan Kanoa Dist #2 drainage.

Samples collected from these locations were found to contain excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with the public health concerns.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Wednesday. This week, the division analyzed samples taken from 38 locations on Saipan's coast.

DEQ welcomes all inquires as to quality of the beach water. The public is encouraged to contact DEQ at 664-8500 with any questions concerning this matter. ***(DEQ)***

GUANGDONG HARDWARE
GUANGDONG MILEI?
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U.S. UTILITY LUMBERS
Regular/Treated 2*6/2*8
25% OFF
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40% OFF

2*4*18 Regular	$6.90	2*6*18 Regular	$10.80
2*4*20 Regular	$7.40		
2*4*12 Utility regular	$4.60	2*4*12 Utility treated	$6.70
2*4*14 Utility regular	$5.30	2*4*14 Utility treated	$7.70
2*4*16 Utility regular	$6.00	2*4*16 Utility treated	$8.70
2*4*18 Utility regular	$6.70	2*4*18 Utility treated	$9.70
2*4*20 Utility regular	$7.20	2*4*20 Utility treated	$10.70
2*6*12 Utility regular	$6.90	2*6*12 Utility treated	$10.20
2*6*14 Utility regular	$7.90	2*6*14 Utility treated	$12.20
2*6*16 Utility regular	$8.90	2*6*16 Utility treated	$14.20
2*6*18 Utility regular	$9.90	2*6*18 Utility treated	$15.20
2*6*20 Utility regular	$10.90	2*6*20 Utility treated	$17.20
2*6*18 Douglas regular	$12.90	2*6*20 Douglas Treated	$18.90

Plyform (5/8"):
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HOLLOW BLOCKS
(CMU)
4"-$0.50/pc
6"-$0.60/pc
8"-$0.70/pc

REBAR
$1338.00 /short ton

New Ceramic Tiles Arrival

HENRY ADHESIVE 356 MULTI-PURPOSE
$15.00/Gal
HENRY ADHESIVE 356 MULTI-PURPOSE
$53.00/4Gals
HENRY ADHESIVE 430 VINYL TILE
$14.00/Gal
HENRY ADHESIVE 314 CERAMIC TILE
$48.00/4Gals

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'Businesses could do more for those with disabilities'

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Business establishments should operate from a perspective that people with disabilities have the right to perform jobs just like any other ordinary individuals, according to a rehabilitation counselor from Insight Consultation and Training Services.

Speaking to members of the Rotary Club of Saipan in Tuesday's regular session at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Melena A. Slaven said that disability is quite a natural thing and about 20 percent of the world's population—or one in five people—have disabilities.

"The percentage is much higher in the CNMI," she said. "What is disability like in a CNMI culture? This is quite challenging."

Slaven, who stayed for a year on Tinian and is now based on Saipan for the past two years, said there is a need to send an important message to business establishment owners that they can do more if they know how to get about it.

She said she wants to make businesses accessible to persons with disabilities.

"Disabilities should not be considered as work barriers because if we can change the attitude and negative perception about persons with disabilities, it can help us all," she said.

For instance, people who are confined to wheelchairs will find out that they can grab a life if they are given the right treatment.

"The truth is that many persons have disability. Sometimes it's temporary and for others permanent," Slaven said.

"The older the population gets, or as the lifespan increases, the chance of having disability increases, too," she said.

Slaven's company offers trainings about disabilities counseling to any interested group or business establishment.

She said her company offers the training for free, supported by the CNMI Development Disabilities Council.

"We conduct sessions for about 30 people so businesses could get together to make a team," she said. The contact number is 483-4411.

Among the issues that they have prepared for discussions are definitions of what disability means to the CNMI, the benefits of hiring persons with disabilities, benefits of accepting disabilities, and making oneself accessible both physically and attitudinally.

They also provide video presentations on communication and interaction guidelines.

One of these guidelines is the "Ten Commandments of Etiquette for Communicating with People with Disabilities."

The first commandment states that when talking with a person with a disability, it is best to speak directly to that person rather than through a companion or sign language interpreter.

Tokai Walker magazine on Saipan

Tokai Walker, a biweekly publication that features lifestyle and travel, has recently been on Saipan to do a feature article for an upcoming issue. In publication for 10 years now, they enjoy a circulation of 130,000 copies each issue. The magazine is printed biweekly. The primary readers are housewives and office ladies.

While here, they visited various tourist attractions such as the Grotto, Managaha Island, the Garapan tourist area and also built in some time for optional tours such as spa and shopping on Saipan. The estimated in-kind ad value from this is $36,000.

"We continue to utilize our strong media relationships in Japan and our other source markets in an effort to receive editorial coverage," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "As the outbound travel market becomes even more sought after, we will work hard to continue to promote the CNMI through all means that we can." ***(MVA)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Youth Congress inauguration tomorrow

Members of the 16th CNMI Legislature will commemorate the successful election of the incoming members of the 11th CNMI Youth Congress with the inauguration of the youth senators.

The Inaugural Mass will be celebrated today, Oct. 17, 2008, at 6pm at the St. Jude Church, Koblerville, Saipan. The Swearing-in Ceremony is on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008, at 10am in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill. ***(PR)***

Live fire bombing training on FDM

The Emergency Management Office and U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam is warning the public that the U.S. military would be conducting live fire training on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla on Oct. 16 – 21 and Oct. 22 – 29, both from 7am to 2am.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

Should you have any questions, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. ***(EMO)***

Coral reef presentation in Kagman

The Kagman Komunidat Association is inviting the public to attend a presentation to be conducted by Dr. Peter Houk, marine biologist at the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality.

The presentation will provide insight on an eight-year data set on the CNMI's coral reef lagoons and its current status. The presentation will be at 6pm on Thursday, Oct. 23, at the Kagman Community Center.

The purpose of this meeting is to present, educate, and inform the Kagman community about the current state of the CNMI's coral reef ecosystem. Attendees will be able to sign up and receive red flag status reports through e-mail. ***(PR)***

Comments on monument to be submitted

The Friends of the Monument and local students will be turning over public comments to the staff at American Memorial Park concerning the proposed Mariana Trench Marine National Monument this afternoon, Oct. 17, at 4pm. The Friends of the Monument have collected hundreds of comments over the last several weeks.

Democratic Party puts off Saturday rally

The Northern Marianas Democratic Party said the rally and registration drive scheduled for Oct. 18 has been postponed until further notice. "We apologize and thank you for your understanding." ***(PR)***

Savings Week proclamation signing

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will sign a mayoral proclamation today, Oct. 17, 2008, to designate the week of Oct. 19 to 25, 2008, as "National Save for Retirement Week" on Saipan.

Tudela acknowledges the cost of retirement continues to rise, in part, and the number of employers providing retiree health coverage continues to decline, and retiree healthcare costs continue to increase at a rapid pace. And many employees may not be aware of retirement savings options and may not have focused on the importance of and need for saving for their own retirement.

The proclamation signing will be at 2pm at the Saipan Mayor's Office. Retirees and interested residents of Saipan are invited to attend. ***(PR)***

Breast cancer awareness month proclamation signing

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will sign a mayoral proclamation today, Oct. 17, to designate Oct. 19 to Nov. 16, 2008, as Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Saipan. This is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Mayor of Saipan.

All cancer survivors and their families are invited to attend the proclamation signing ceremony.

The proclamation signing will be at 10am at the Saipan Mayor's Office. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

JUAN F. BARCINAS and BARBARA DLC. EVANGELISTA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about June 14, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on June 16, 1983, under Document No. 17490 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT 001 T 52, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 001 T 00, DATED AUGUST 14, 1969, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 1,486 SQUARE METERS.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$117,150.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$117,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

HERMAN M. GUERRERO aka Herman M. Deleon Guerrero and Asunta T. Guerrero aka Asunta T. Deleon Guerrero (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 18, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 18, 1983, under Document No. 17740 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Tract number 20472-9, and containing an area of 926 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/cadastral plat number 2064/82, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as document number 14154, on the 26th day of March, 1982.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$64,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$64,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

VICENTE W. KAIPAT and LEONILA S. KAIPAT (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 21, 1994, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation formerly known as Marianas Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on May 10, 1994, under Document No. 94-1199 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Lot No. 005 I 330, containing an area of 1,109 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Official Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 07, dated September 8, 1982, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 18433, dated September 30, 1983 the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 5, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$29,730.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$29,730.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

BLAS T. MAGOFNA ("Trustor"), on or about January 12, 1995, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on January 20, 1995, under Document No. 95-143 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 002 B 12, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 737 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 5014/94, DATED FEBRUARY 7, 1994, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 94-396, DATED FEBRUARY 10, 1994, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$108,660.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$108,660.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

ADVERTORIAL

Timeshare club at The Fort in Manila for NMI residents

For only $99 a month and a one-time initiation fee of $1,000, CNMI residents can now buy a membership unit at the new The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club located at the Fort Palm Spring Condominiums at the famous The Fort in Metro Manila.

CNMI residents who regularly visit Manila either for medical purpose or vacation will find it convenient to buy a timeshare vacation club membership at the luxurious Fort Palm Spring Condominiums, a serene urban sanctuary right in the heart of the Philippines' newest center of culture and trade.

A timeshare is a form of shared ownership and right to the use of a property. Timeshare properties are typically resort condominium units in which multiple parties hold rights to use the property. Each member is allotted a period of time, typically one week every year, in which they may use the property.

Timeshare membership not only makes sound financial sense, but also provides for a far more secure, relaxing and enjoyable vacation experience for residents of the Commonwealth. Timeshares will make it affordable for CNMI residents to treat themselves and their family to a one-week vacation in Manila every year and save a surprising amount of money along the way.

Here's how:

1. When you are a member of The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club, you will no longer need to rent pricey but not necessarily elegant hotels at over $100 a day during your every travel to Manila.

2. Unlike renting a pricey hotel room with rates increasing every year, buying a timeshare condo unit will enable CNMI residents to "lock in" the cost of vacation lodging (only $99 a month) and realize a lifetime of dream vacations for as long as you own the vacation property.

3. You no longer need to pay for taxi and other transportation around Manila. For a hassle-free vacation experience at The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club, you will be provided your own professional driver and service car to take you wherever you need to go in and around Metro Manila. Knowing that you're safe in a strange city is priceless.

4. You can take pleasure in buying a vacation property without the headache of personally maintaining it.

5. Your rights to the timeshare vacation property are transferable to buyers of your choice, including your kin.

6. You can save yourself from the stress of weeks or months of planning and searching for the best accommodations for what is supposed to be a relaxing vacation or routine medical checkup.

7. Free referrals to U.S. licensed professional nurses, babysitters or personal shoppers.

8. Free medical referrals to U.S. licensed physicians based in Manila can be arranged prior to leaving the CNMI.

9. And even while you're still in the CNMI, you can have our Manila office buy and prepare things for you in advance so you will have more time relaxing or entertaining in Manila.

10. Free use of a Philippine cell phone during your entire stay in Manila.

Again, the best part is that all these personal services that you can hardly receive from hotels are provided at no extra cost to you as member of The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club.

For the entire life of the condominium building, timeshare members will get to use the condo's amenities, including a swimming pool, gym, spa and function room.

Each condo unit at The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club is fully furnished and equipped with a complete kitchen system, telephone lines, cable TV system, air conditioning, water heater, exhaust system, individual water and power metering, among other things.

Highly rated commercial establishments like restaurants, coffee shops, bookstores and theme shops are within walking distance of the condo building. Five major medical centers—St. Luke's Medical Center, Asian Hospital and Medical Center, The Medical City, Makati Medical Center, and Cardinal Santos Medical Center—are within a few short miles of the development.

The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club is made available to CNMI residents by JL Finance Co. Inc., a Saipan-based firm primarily engaged in real estate and consumer finance business focusing on small and medium sized enterprises. It is affiliated with the University of Loyola at CNMI and Kaiser Group of Medical Clinics and Residential Facilities, Inc.

JL Finance welcomes requests for presentations on how to join The Fort Timeshare Vacation Club to groups of interested buyers in the CNMI. Call (670) 234 8004 or (670) 234 8005 or email lee.jlfinance@yahoo.com for appointment. ***(PR)***

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday greetings go out to Yang, left, and Nancy, who are both celebrating their birthdays today, Oct. 17, 2008. Your friends and loved ones wish you all the best on this special day, with prayers for more birthdays to come. Greetings come from Mr. Wonderful.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fenny haircut & beauty parlor

SPECIAL DISCOUNT

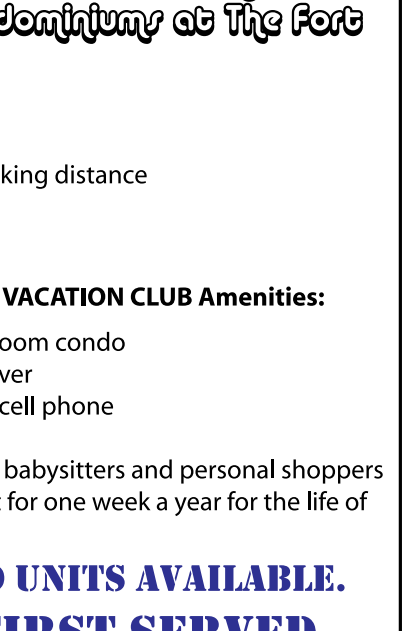
Extensions (eye lashes) $10.00
Facial Treatment (Regular Price $20.00) $15.00

SPECIALS ON FACIAL TATTOO

Eyebrows
Lips Regular Price ~~$100~~ 50%OFF
Discounted price $50.00
Removal of Body Mole $0.50
Short Hair Straightening $30.00

Curl Hair $30.00 | Wedding Gown
Steam Treatment $15.00 | Rental $50.00 (1day)

Tel.: 235-0393 • Mobile: 285-0272
Located on Beach Road, Chalan Piao (Blue and white-striped bldg. near old Joeten Bldg.)



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP: 2008-CDA-08-RFP

CLOSING DATE: Friday, October 31, 2008 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FY2009 & 2010 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY & THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 1ST FLOOR, WAKIN'S BLDG., GUALO RAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO 235-7147.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/OSCAR C. CAMACHO
Acting, CEO

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
RFQ09-DOC-004

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2008 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFQ MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. MICHAEL ADA, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VIA E-MAIL TO depcommerce.ada@gmail.com OR FAX TO (670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, OCTOBER 29, 2008.

/s/ MICHAEL ADA
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

$99.00 buys you a Membership Unit at...

THE FORT TIMESHARE VACATION CLUB

in Metro Manila

Live the lifestyle of the super rich of Manila

Live in luxury at The Fort Palm Spring Condominiums at The Fort

Condominium Amenities:

* Function room
* Swimming pool
* Hundreds of shops within walking distance
* Close to all major hospitals
* Gym
* Spa

THE FORT TIMESHARE VACATION CLUB Amenities:

* Fully furnished 1-bedroom condo
* Free use of car and driver
* Free use of Philippine cell phone
* Free maid service
* Free referral to nurses, babysitters and personal shoppers
* Free use of condo unit for one week a year for the life of the building

LIMITED UNITS AVAILABLE.

FIRST COME. FIRST SERVED.

THE FORT TIMESHARE VACATION CLUB
JL Finance Co. Inc.
Fourth Floor, Marianas Business Plaza
(formerly Nauru Building) Susupe, Saipan
Tel # (670) 234 8004 and 234 8005

Business

Fear and loathing over economy spreads

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fear and loathing is spreading as signs mount that the economy is in danger of losing its balance.

And a fresh batch of economic reports due out Thursday is likely to show more problems for the already stumbling economy.

Industrial production is expected to have dropped in September, underscoring the plight of troubled auto makers as well as manufacturers of furniture, construction materials and other goods that have been hard hit by the collapse of the housing market.

The number of new people signing up for unemployment benefits last week may dip slightly but is still expected to top 400,000, a level that usually points to an ailing labor market.

Consumer prices probably will nudge up in September, but will be up sharply over the past year, further pinching Americans already smarting from dwindling nest eggs and sinking home values.

"Given the likely drawn-out nature of the prospective adjustments in housing and financial markets, I see the most probable scenario as one in which the performance of the economy remains subpar well into next year and then gradually improves in late 2009 and 2010," Donald Kohn, vice chairman of the Federal Reserve, concluded Wednesday evening.

Worries about the economy sent the Dow Jones industrials down a staggering 733 points earlier Wednesday, erasing any hopes that the convulsions that have shaken Wall Street for a month were over.

The selling spree carried over to Asia, where stocks fell sharply in early trading Thursday. Japan's key stock index plummeted more than 10 percent, South Korean shares shed 7 percent, while in Hong Kong, the Hang Seng Index was down 6 percent.

The plunge in stocks put the nation's economic anxiety front-and-center as the two major presidential candidates, Sens. Barack Obama and John McCain, squared off in their final debate Wednesday night in Hempstead, N.Y.

McCain used the debate to accuse Obama of waging class warfare by advocating tax increases designed to "spread the wealth around." The Democrat denied it, and countered that he favors tax reductions for 95 percent of all Americans.

Wednesday's daylong stock market sell-off came as retailers reported the biggest drop in sales in three years and as a Federal Reserve snapshot showed Americans are spending less and manufacturing is slowing around the country.

Piling up losses in a rough final hour of trading, the Dow ended the day down nearly 8 percent—its steepest drop since one week after Black Monday in 1987.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

MARINA A. BAUTISTA and LORETO L. BAUTISTA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about November 15, 1999, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on November 15, 1999, under Document No. 99-2777 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 972, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 781 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 G 18, DATED DECEMBER 3, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4286, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$93,680.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$93,680.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

JOSE A. CEPEDA and JULIA A. CEPEDA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about July 20, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on July 20, 1984, under Document No. 84-1301 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 017 H 18 (FORMERLY BLOCK 66 LOT 3) AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 017 H 00 DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its 2nd Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$81,150.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$81,150.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

NOVA ANN T. QUITUGUA and RAY J. TAITAGUE (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 24, 1998, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on September 28, 1998, under Document No. 98-3008 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 330 R 232, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 924 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 330 R 05, DATED MARCH 13, 1992, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 92-861, DATED MARCH 16, 1992, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **November 14, 2008**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$69,890.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$69,890.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

*****NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency*****

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

BRADLEY JOHN TOVES ATALIG aka LARRY JOHN TOVES ATALIG and NANETTE E. ATALIG (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 20, 2001, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 2, 2001, under Document No. 01-2166 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 347 R 96, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 827 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 347 R 07, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4282, DATED DECEMBER 9, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on September 12, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **$52,680.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Chairman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **November 13, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than November 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **$52,680.00** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The lease price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2008.

By: /s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, at 234-6866/7689 for more information.

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AP

Specialist Joseph Morelli works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008.

Asian markets tumble; Nikkei falls 10 percent

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stocks plummeted Thursday, with Tokyo's market plunging more than 10 percent, after another dive on Wall Street as worse-than-expected data about the U.S. economy heightened fears of a global recession.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average slid 911 points, or 9.6 percent, to 8,635.56, after earlier falling as much as 10.3 percent. Hong Kong's key index lost 963.65 points, or 6 percent, to 15,034.65.

South Korea's Kospi was down 7.2 percent, Australia's benchmark was off 6.3 percent and Singapore's index lost about 6 percent.

Investors were unnerved by U.S. data showing the country's retail sales fell 1.2 percent in September, almost double the 0.7 percent decline analysts expected. Other readings, released by the U.S. Federal Reserve, indicated the economy continued to slow in the early fall as financial and credit market problems took a turn for the worse.

The figures were ominous signs that the world's largest economy—a critical export market for Asia—was sliding into recession.

"Sentiment is deteriorating very fast. People are losing what little confidence they have on a day-by-day basis," said Jacky Choi, a Hong Kong-based fund manager at Value Partners Ltd., which manages about US$5 billion in Asia. "Everyone is very worried about the economy in the U.S and around the world."

In New York Wednesday, the Dow Industrial average ended down 733.08, or 7.87 percent, at 8,577.91—the biggest percentage drop since the 8 percent drop on Oct. 26, 1987, which followed Black Monday, the Oct. 19 crash that sent the blue chips down 22.6 percent in a single session.

The massive selling accelerated as the U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke warned in a speech Wednesday that patching up the credit markets won't provide an instantaneous jolt to the economy.

Oil prices continued to fall. Light, sweet crude for November delivery slid US$1.48 to US$73.06 in Asian trade on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

European markets sank Wednesday, with Britain's FTSE 100 index dropping 7.2 percent to 4,079.59, while Germany's DAX ended down 6.5 percent at 4,861.63

In Latin America, too, stocks plunged. Brazil's Ibovespa stock index sank 11.4 percent to 36,833. The sell-off triggered an automatic 30-minute suspension of mid-afternoon trading. Argentina's Merval index plunged 12.2 percent.

Fears about the outlook for the world economy have overtaken the relief the markets breathed at the start of the week on the unveiling of a series of bank rescue packages from governments around the world.

Oil falls to 14-month low on bad US economic data

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices fell to a 14-month low Thursday in Asia as bad U.S. economic news heighten fears that a significant global economic slowdown will undermine demand for crude.

Light, sweet crude for November delivery was down $1.29 to $73.25 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by midday in Singapore. The contract fell overnight $4.09 to settle at $74.54, the lowest settlement price since Aug. 31, 2007.

"The market is just very worried about a severe international economic downturn," said David Moore, commodity strategist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia in Sydney. "They're thinking that oil consumption will be weaker than expected."

Investors were discouraged Wednesday by a U.S. Commerce Department report that showed retail sales dropped in September by 1.2 percent, a sign that turmoil in the credit markets has begun to slow consumer spending. Later in the day, the Beige Book, the assessment of business conditions from the Federal Reserve, said that the economy continued to slow in the early fall.

$ DOLLARS AND SENSE

If bank fails, FDIC protects your money

By DAVID UFFINGTON
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In a shaky economy, the last thing you want to worry about is the health of your bank and whether your money will be safe should the bank fail.

You need not worry.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation was created by Congress in 1933 to cover accounts in the event of bank failure. In the FDIC's 75-year history, no depositor has ever lost any money due to a bank failure.

The FDIC covers deposit accounts up to the federal limits. For checking and savings accounts, certificates of deposit (CDs) and money-market deposit accounts, that limit is $100,000 per depositor per institution. A joint account is covered for $100,000 for each person. IRA deposits are covered up to $250,000.

However, depositors can qualify for more coverage at one bank if their funds are in different "ownership" categories, such as trusts with named beneficiaries.

If a bank fails, the FDIC moves quickly to give depositors access to insured funds, generally on the next business day. If deposits exceed the FDIC limits (for example a single account with $120,000), it's still possible to recover the uninsured money, depending how the FDIC handles the bank's assets and how much it recovers. The assets might be sold and the depositor could receive an initial payment on uninsured money within a few days or weeks.

In the event of a bank failure, the FDIC does one of two things. It transfers deposits to a new bank, or it creates a new "bridge bank" that will be operated by the FDIC until a buyer for the bank can be found.

If your bank fails, you have two options. You can keep your money where it is and let the FDIC transfer your cash to a new bank. You'll likely only have to change your checks and ATM card.

Or you can withdraw your money and take it to a new bank. Logically, however, a bank that's just been taken over is under the scrutiny of the FDIC and is probably even safer than another bank to which you might choose to transfer your funds.

For specific questions on coverage for your accounts, call the FDIC toll-free 1-877-ASK-FDIC (1-877-275-3342).

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

SISTER REMEDIOS
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
and
JOETEN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
presents
1st Annual Sr. Remedios Memorial
WALK-A-THON
Saturday, October 18, 2008
Minatchom Atdao to Microl Corporation
Registration starts at 4:30pm
Walk starts at 5pm
Pledges worth $25.00 or more:
will receive a free t-shirt
Minimum pledge:
General Walkers pay $10.00 to walk.
Children 5 and under pay $5.00 to walk.
Pledges worth $50.00 or more
will receive tickets to a raffle
to win special prizes!
Please come and support Sr. Remedios Early Childhood Development Center!
For more information, please contact Esther Suzuki at 234-6247

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 09-003

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **PSS Webmaster Services**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-003" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **October 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-003, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and three (3) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: *babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.*

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ **Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.**
Commissioner of Education

/S/ **Juan D. Babauta**
Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Request for Proposal
RFP 09-004

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Provision of Technical Support Concerning the Implementation and Evaluation of Prioritized Improvement Activities as well as Consultation on the Development of the CNMI's 2007-2008 IDEA Parts B and C State Performance Plans and Annual Performance Reports.**

Detailed information on the scope of work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3 d floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked **"RFP 09-004"** containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than October 29, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked **"RFP 09-004, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination"**, containing one (1) original and three (3) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively ,questions may be e-mailed to the following address: **babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.**

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/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, P&S Officer

Nation

McCain, Obama get tough, personal in final debate

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP)—John McCain repeatedly assailed Barack Obama's character and campaign positions on taxes, abortion and more Wednesday night, hoping to transform their final presidential debate into a launching pad for a political comeback. "You didn't tell the American people the truth," he charged.

Unruffled, and ahead in the polls, Obama parried each accusation, and leveled a few of his own.

"One hundred percent, John, of your ads, 100 percent of them have been negative," Obama shot back in an uncommonly personal debate less than three weeks from Election Day.

"It's not true," McCain retorted.

"It absolutely is true," said Obama, seeking the last word.

McCain is currently running all negative ads, according to a study by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. But he has run a number of positive ads during the campaign.

The 90-minute encounter, seated at a round table at Hofstra University, was their third debate, and marked the beginning of a 20-day sprint to Election Day. Obama leads in the national polls and in surveys in many battleground states, an advantage built in the weeks since the nation stumbled into the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.

With few exceptions, the campaign is being waged in states that voted Republican in 2004—Virginia, Colorado, Iowa—and in many of them, Obama holds a lead in the polls.

McCain played the aggressor from the opening moments of the debate, accusing Obama of waging class warfare by seeking tax increases that would "spread the wealth around."

The Arizona senator also demanded to know the full extent of Obama's relationship with William Ayers, a 1960s-era terrorist and the Democrat's ties with ACORN, a liberal group accused of violating federal law as it seeks to register voters. And he insisted Obama disavow last week's remarks by Rep. John Lewis, a Democrat, who accused the Republican ticket of playing racial politics along the same lines as segregationists of the past.

Struggling to escape the political drag of an unpopular Republican incumbent, McCain also said, "Sen. Obama, I am not President Bush. ... You wanted to run against President Bush, you should have run four years ago."

Obama returned each volley, and brushed aside McCain's claim to full political independence.

"If I've occasionally mistaken your policies for George Bush's policies, it's because on the core economic issues that matter to the American people—on tax policy, on energy policy, on spending priorities—you have been a vigorous supporter of President Bush," he said.

McCain's allegation that Obama had not leveled with the public involved the Illinois senator's decision to forgo public financing for his campaign in favor of raising his own funds. As a result, he has far outraised McCain, although the difference has been somewhat neutralized by an advantage the Republican National Committee holds over the Democratic Party.

"He signed a piece of paper" earlier in the campaign pledging to accept federal financing, McCain said. He added that Obama's campaign has spent more money than any since Watergate, a reference to President Nixon's re-election, a campaign that later became synonymous with scandal.

AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., listens as Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speaks during the presidential debate Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008, at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y.

Murtha: Western Pa. 'racist' but Obama should win

WASHINGTON (AP)—Democratic Rep. John Murtha said Wednesday his home base of western Pennsylvania is racist and that could reduce Barack Obama's victory margin in the state by 4 percentage points.

The 17-term Democratic congressman told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in a story posted Wednesday on its Web site: "There is no question that western Pennsylvania is a racist area."

Murtha said it has taken time for many Pennsylvania voters to come around to embracing a black presidential candidate, but that Obama should still win the state, though not in a runaway.

In a separate interview posted Wednesday on the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review's Web site, Murtha said Obama has a problem with voters' racial attitudes in western Pennsylvania that could trim his winning margin on Nov. 4.

The working-class region is a key battleground in Pennsylvania. The area is struggling economically, and has a high percentage of veterans and elderly voters. Murtha's district outside Pittsburgh encompasses Johnstown and many small towns once dominated by steel and coal.

In a statement issued later Wednesday, Murtha spokesman Matt Mazonkey told The Associated Press: "It's naive to think that race or gender doesn't play a role in a voter's perception of a candidate. Mr. Murtha makes the point that while race may be an issue for some, it's evident that voters today are concerned about the issues that truly matter—issues like the economy, health care, and energy independence."

Murtha, who backed Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton in the state's April primary, told the Post-Gazette that the older population has been "more hesitant" to support Obama. But in the past three months, he said groups he deals with regularly, such as veterans and senior citizens, have decided to back Obama.

Murtha said Republican John McCain has been stymied by the economy and the attacks on Obama's character.

"I think Obama is going to win, but I don't think it's going to be a runaway," Murtha said.

Residents file back in as L.A. fire fears diminish

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Residents of the San Fernando Valley breathed air free of smoke and ash for the first time in four days Wednesday under brilliant blue skies.

Gone were the convulsive winds that at times reached gale force. Nowhere could Los Angeles police be found using bullhorns to order residents out of homes and away from deadly fires that have blackened more than 34 square miles and destroyed more than 50 homes.

The last evacuation orders for two big fire areas at opposite ends of the valley were lifted, though some locations were open just to residents. Some of those who returned found only rubble.

"I've been crying for days," said Tanya Valdivia, 32, as she searched what was left of her mobile home. "I guess it's just a natural thing, but when you've lost everything, you're going to be upset."

The winds that helped spread the flames were slack Wednesday, though temperatures were rising and the largest fire, which has consumed more than 20 square miles near Porter Ranch, remained only 20 percent contained. Incident commander Scott Poster said there were places where no fire lines had been established, "so if the wind hits it, it could move."

Helicopters and air tankers were still attacking the flames. Fire officials said there were about 3,000 homes in the vicinity, and though some areas of the fire appeared to be extinguished, firefighters were digging into debris to make sure nothing was still burning.

With humidity low, the National Weather Service extended warnings of risky fire conditions from Wednesday evening through Friday in many areas along the Southern California coast and east of Los Angeles.

The fires forced thousands of people to evacuate and were blamed for two deaths. One man died in the flames, and a motorist was killed in a crash as a fire neared a freeway.

Fifteen homes and 47 outbuildings were destroyed in the Porter Ranch area, and another six homes were damaged, said Los Angeles County fire Inspector Ron Haralson. Investigators determined it was ignited when a power line fell onto dry brush, the Fire Department said.

Ten miles away, there was major progress against Los Angeles' other big wildfire. A 7 1/2-square-mile fire in the northeastern San Fernando Valley was 90 percent contained, and some evacuees were allowed to go home.

ACROSS THE NATION

One-time MLK lieutenant gets 15 years for incest

LEESBURG, Va. (AP)—A one-time top lieutenant to Martin Luther King Jr. was sentenced Wednesday to 15 years in prison for having sex more than a decade ago with his then-teenage daughter. The Rev. James L. Bevel, 71, a key architect of the 1963 Children's Crusade in Birmingham, Ala., and other pivotal moments of the civil rights movement, was convicted earlier this year of a single count of incest. The assault occurred in the early 1990s in Loudoun County, when Bevel was working closely with the Virginia-based organization led by political extremist Lyndon LaRouche. The 15-year sentence imposed by Circuit Judge Burke McCahill was the most severe allowed. Sentencing guidelines called for probation only. Bevel testified during Wednesday's hearing that he was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer that has spread to his liver. Doctors estimate he has only six weeks to six months to live. Bevel had hoped for probation so he could enter hospice care. But prosecutors said his illness should not temper his sentence. "We know that the defendant is dying," said Prosecutor Gigi Lawless. "Everyone dies. This defendant should die in jail."

Law experts: Fla. conviction possible without body

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Prosecutors have DNA tests and hair samples. They have testimony about "the smell of death" in the trunk of the suspect's car. What they do not have is a body. Prosecutors building a case against a single 22-year-old Florida mother accused of killing her young daughter will have to rely on forensic evidence and convince a jury that Casey Anthony lacks credibility and had a motive, legal experts say. To help build the case, the prosecutor will be using what he described as cutting-edge forensic tests, including air testing for compounds released when a body decomposes. Prosecutors have not been specific about how the evidence led to charges against Anthony, but experts say it is possible to get a conviction without a body, with several cases, including some in Florida, as examples. "Sometimes circumstantial evidence is as powerful, or more powerful than the body itself," said Donald Jones, a professor of criminal law at the University of Miami law school. Since 3-year-old Caylee Anthony's disappearance was reported in July, investigators have taken air samples from her mother's car trunk and tested for the presence of her DNA. Hair samples also have been analyzed. The FBI and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory at the University of Tennessee performed the tests.

Nancy Reagan hospitalized with broken pelvis

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nancy Reagan suffered a broken pelvis in a fall at her home and will be hospitalized for several days, her spokeswoman said Wednesday. The 87-year-old former first lady fell last week, spokeswoman Joanne Drake said. She did not seek immediate medical care but decided Monday to get checked out because of persistent pain, Drake said. Doctors at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center determined she had a fractured pelvis and sacrum, the triangular bone at the base of the spinal column. "She's in some pain but in very good spirits," Drake said. Mrs. Reagan was undergoing physical therapy but surgery won't be required, Drake said. She will be hospitalized "for a few days—until doctors are satisfied with her progress—and then return home," Drake said in a statement. Recovery is expected within six to eight weeks, she said. Mrs. Reagan apparently got up in middle of the night and fell after twisting on her leg at her home in Bel-Air. She was hospitalized three days in February after a similar fall at the hillside home she shared with President Reagan after their White House years. It was initially feared Mrs. Reagan broke her hip in that fall, but tests determined there was no fracture.

Asia

5,800 Chinese babies hospitalized on tainted milk

BEIJING (AP)—Nearly 6,000 Chinese babies remain hospitalized with kidney problems resulting from milk powder adulterated with the industrial chemical melamine, the Health Ministry said.

Six of the children were in serious condition, the ministry said in a statement posted on its Web site late Wednesday.

The government has been trying to contain the fallout after baby formula contaminated with melamine was blamed for causing the deaths of four infants and sickening about 54,000 other children in mainland China.

In Hong Kong, the government said Wednesday another child had been found with kidney stones after drinking Chinese-made tainted milk, the eighth such case in the territory.

The 8-year-old boy was hospitalized after being diagnosed with a stone in his right kidney, the Department of Health said. The boy had been drinking three packs of pure milk produced by a Chinese dairy each week since 2003, authorities said.

The tainted milk scandal has sparked global concern about Chinese food imports, with more than 30 countries restricting Chinese dairy products, and in some cases all Chinese food imports.

China's iconic White Rabbit candy returned to the shelves in Shanghai on Wednesday, but company officials said overseas sales would resume only later, the Shanghai Daily reported. The candy was pulled from shelves in the U.S., Europe and Asia following tests that found it contained melamine.

AP

A Chinese customer chooses dairy products in a supermarket in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu province, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2008.

Thai, Cambodian officials hold peace talks

PREAH VIHEAR, Cambodia (AP)—Thai and Cambodian troops faced off at a disputed border as military officials held urgent peace talks Thursday, a day after a deadly gunbattle near an 11th-century temple sparked fears of war.

Thousands of Cambodian villagers living near the hilltop Preah Vihear temple fled their homes, fearing more violence. Families packed rice, clothes and chickens into cars, pickup trucks and carts pulled by motorized plowing machines, forming long convoys heading away from the border zone.

Senior military officials from the two neighboring Southeast Asian nations met in Thailand's Sisaket province, just across the border from Cambodia, to discuss the previous day's clash, which killed at least two Cambodian soldiers and wounded 10 from both sides.

Wednesday's clash was the first deadly fighting since July, when UNESCO, the United Nations cultural agency, approved Cambodia's bid to make Preah Vihear temple a U.N. World Heritage site.

The decision flared longstanding tensions between the neighbors, who both claim land around the temple, and prompted the two countries to rush troops to the border.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Suicide attack kills 4 at Pakistani police station

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—A suicide car bomber attacked a police station in northwest Pakistan on Thursday, killing four security officers—the latest in a series of blasts that are eroding confidence in the nuclear-armed country. The attacker struck in the picturesque mountain valley of Swat, one of several regions where government forces have been struggling to defeat well-organized Taliban militants. Police said insurgents opened fire on their station in Mingora, Swat's main town, after midnight with guns and at least two rockets before the man drove an explosives-laden vehicle into police compound. District police chief Dilawar Bangash said one officer and three paramilitary troops died and another 26 people were injured, many of them seriously. The police station and several shops were badly damaged, he said. Security forces backed by tanks and warplanes have been battling militants in Swat for more than a year. They opened a second major front in the nearby tribal region of Bajur in August.

N. Korea threatens to break off all ties with S. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea threatened Thursday to break off all relations with South Korea if its new conservative government continues what the North called a policy of reckless confrontation with the communist nation. The warning, issued in a commentary carried in the North's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper, means Pyongyang could terminate civilian exchanges with the South, including a tourism program and a joint industrial complex, which have continued despite a freeze in their government-level ties. If the South "keeps to the road of reckless confrontation with the (North), defaming its dignity despite its repeated warnings, this will compel it to make a crucial decision including the total freeze of the North-South relations," the commentary said. South Korea played down the threat. "It does not mean the North will take steps immediately," said Unification Ministry spokesman Kim Ho-nyeon. "We will monitor the situation regarding this, and there is no change in the government's intention to improve South-North relations through dialogue."

World

No. 2 al-Qaida leader in Iraq killed

BAGHDAD (AP)—American soldiers killed the alleged No. 2 leader of al-Qaida in Iraq, a Moroccan who trained in Afghanistan, recruited foreign fighters and ran operations in northern Iraq where Sunni insurgents remain a potent threat, the U.S. military said Wednesday.

The man, who the military said was known as Abu Qaswarah, died Oct. 5 during a raid on a building in the northern city of Mosul that served as a major "command and control location" for the region. Four other insurgents were killed in the operation, the U.S. said.

The announcement of Abu Qaswarah's death was withheld until Wednesday to allow for positive identification, the military said.

American officials described Abu Qaswarah, also known as Abu Sara, as a charismatic figure who had rallied al-Qaida's network in the north after the movement suffered major setbacks in Baghdad and other former strongholds.

The Swedish news agency TT reported that the man was also a Swedish citizen. Swedish officials confirmed that a Moroccan Swede suspected of al-Qaida ties was killed in early October and that he was on the U.N. and the EU terror watch lists. They declined to elaborate and it was unclear whether the Swede may have been among the four others killed.

On Oct. 5, the U.S. military reported that 11 people including women and children died in Mosul when an extremist detonated a suicide vest but it was unclear if this was the same incident in which Abu Qaswarah died.

The death of such a senior al-Qaida leader will cause a major disruption to the terror network, particularly in northern Iraq, where the movement remains active, the military said.

"It's going to be much more difficult for the factions left in that area to network and operate among themselves," U.S. spokesman Brig. Gen. David Perkins said. "It allows the Iraqi security forces with the support of the coalition to go in and continue to tear apart that network."

U.S. military officials said Abu Qaswarah, whose real name was unavailable, was a key figure in the al-Qaida network with ties to the movement's global leadership in Pakistan and Afghanistan, where he trained.

That suggested that many of al-Qaida in Iraq's key leaders have remained in the country despite recent reports that many foreign fighters had fled to Afghanistan and Pakistan, where fighting has been on the rise.

A U.S. statement said Abu Qaswarah became the movement's emir, or chief, for northern Iraq in June 2007 and served as second-in-command of al-Qaida in Iraq behind the group's shadowy national leader Abu Ayyub al-Masri, also known as Abu Hamza al-Muhajir.

Iraq: US *agrees to limited* Iraqi *jurisdiction*

BAGHDAD (AP)—American troops could face trial before Iraqi courts for major crimes committed off base and when not on missions, under a draft security pact hammered out in months of tortuous negotiations, Iraqi officials familiar with the accord said Wednesday.

The draft also calls for U.S. troops to leave Iraqi cities by the end of June and withdraw from the country entirely by Dec. 31, 2011, unless the Baghdad government asks some of them to stay for training or security support, the officials said.

It would also give the Iraqis a greater role in U.S. military operations and full control of the Green Zone, the 3 1/2-square mile area of central Baghdad that includes the U.S. Embassy and major Iraqi government offices.

One senior Iraqi official said Baghdad may demand even more concessions before the draft is submitted to parliament for a final decision. The two sides are working against a deadline of year's end when the U.N. mandate authorizing the U.S.-led mission expires.

The Iraqi officials, familiar with details of the draft, spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not supposed to release the information.

In Washington, the State Department confirmed a draft had been finalized but refused to discuss any details.

"There is a text that people are looking at," spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters. "Nothing is done until everything is done. Everything isn't done. The Iraqis are still talking among themselves. We are still talking to the Iraqis."

U.S. officials declined to discuss details of the draft but characterized it as the administration's final offer, saying no more concessions would be considered.

With Iraqi approval far from certain and the Pentagon already nervous about the immunity compromise, the officials said the administration was bracing for opposition from U.S. lawmakers, some of whom have already expressed concern about giving Iraq's fledgling and untested courts any jurisdiction over American troops.

Omar grows into Category 3 hurricane in Caribbean

CHRISTIANSTED, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP)—A fast-strengthening Hurricane Omar was crossing the northern Leeward Islands early Thursday as a major Category 3 storm.

A day earlier, the hurricane sank boats in a St. Croix harbor, knocked down trees and trapped people in their homes before spinning toward other tiny islands.

The storm's top winds increased to 120 mph (195 kph) on a path that forecasters said would likely bring it past the U.S. and British Virgin Islands on one side and territories including Anguilla on the other, potentially missing a direct hit on any Caribbean island.

"It could thread the needle, but any kind of track deviation and any of those islands will be clobbered," said Jack Beven of the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

As Omar's center edged past St. Croix late Wednesday, some panicked residents were denied evacuation requests because emergency responders were pinned down by the storm, according to Jacqueline Heyliger, deputy director of the island's emergency management agency.

"No damages have been reported, but we have a couple more hours of this," Heyliger said after midnight, adding that 85 people were in the island's only shelter.

At the Caravelle Hotel in St. Croix, maintenance worker Mike Parish was working by the light from generators in a vain effort to keep rain water from blowing in beneath the door. Authorities cut electricity across the island as a precaution.

"We're are doing all we can. The water is too much for us," Parish said.

The storm, which sank at least two 30-foot (9-meter) boats in Christiansted harbor, was following an unusual southwest-to-the-northeast track toward the central North Atlantic, well away from the U.S. mainland.

On the nearby Puerto Rican island of Vieques, the storm flooded roads and downed tree branches. Fishermen and others gathered at dusk to watch the rough surf smash against a seawall.

Off the Wall

Family cremated mom on BBQ, kept benefits

CORNING, Calif. (AP)—The family of a dead elderly woman cremated her remains on a makeshift barbecue and continued collecting her retirement checks amounting to more than $25,000, authorities in Northern California said. Ramona Allmond's daughter and grandson were arrested Sunday on suspicion of embezzlement, elder abuse and disposing of a body without a permit.

Allmond, 84, likely died of natural causes, though investigators were still trying to determine the exact cause of death, said Tehama County sheriff's Capt. Paul Hosler.

Allmond's daughter, Kathleen Allmond, 50, and Allmond's grandson, Tony Ray, 30, told investigators their relative died in December. They left her body on her bedroom floor for a week before cremating the remains in their backyard fire pit, Hosler said.

Investigators said the two kept collecting Allmond's monthly retirement checks, amounting to more than $25,000. Sheriff's Detective Richard Knox said they may have been trying to honor Allmond's desire to die at home and be cremated.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Note to self: Taser no good on wild boars

BROOKSVILLE, Fla. (AP)—While normally effective on people, a Hernando deputy learned the hard way that Taser stun guns do not work very well on wild boars. The sheriff's office reported that Deputy Joseph Tibor responded to complaints of an "extremely large pig" tearing up a resident's yard in a Brooksville neighborhood Tuesday morning. He quickly found a 450-pound boar rooting up shrubbery and threatening a water fountain. The animal then flashed his tusks toward onlookers. Tibor tried to stop it with his Taser, but the 50,000 volts had no effect on the animal. The boar was eventually corralled into a neighbor's trailer.

Thou Shalt Not Steal may have been a better topic

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Authorities are looking for two people who allegedly stole a preacher's wallet and went on a shopping spree while he was giving a sermon about showing mercy to others. The Rev. Rob Hamby was the guest preacher at Fort Worth Presbyterian Church on Sunday when his briefcase was stolen from the church office. Security cameras caught images of a man and woman. The Dallas Morning News reported that about $2,000 in purchases were made on Hamby's credit and debit cards before he finished preaching, including the purchase of a $676 diamond ring.

Suit vs God thrown out over lack of address

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—A judge has thrown out a Nebraska legislator's lawsuit against God, saying the Almighty wasn't properly served due to his unlisted home address. State Sen. Ernie Chambers filed the lawsuit last year seeking a permanent injunction against God.

He said God has made terroristic threats against the senator and his constituents in Omaha, inspired fear and caused "widespread death, destruction and terrorization of millions upon millions of the Earth's inhabitants."

Chambers has said he filed the lawsuit to make the point that everyone should have access to the courts regardless of whether they are rich or poor.

On Tuesday, however, Douglas County District Court Judge Marlon Polk ruled that under state law a plaintiff must have access to the defendant for a lawsuit to move forward.

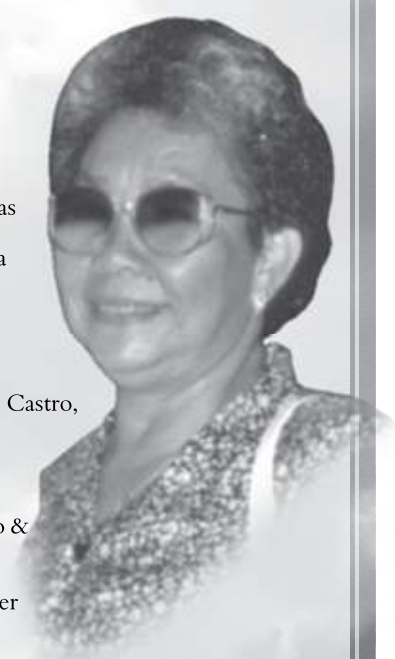
"Given that this court finds that there can never be service effectuated on the named defendant this action will be dismissed with prejudice," Polk wrote.

Chambers, who graduated from law school but never took the bar exam, thinks he's found a hole in the judge's ruling.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Maximina Reyes Flores

Affectionately known as
"Max"
Of Saipan, was called to her Eternal Life on
October 15, 2008 (Wednesday) at the age of 70.



Predeceased by
Parents: †Vicente Cruz Reyes & †Maria Guzman San Nicolas
Father & Mother In-Law: †Joaquin Aguon Flores
&† Yerma Bruggemann & †Antonia Camacho Borja

Brothers & Sisters In-Law:
†Joaquin & †Juana Reyes, †Benbinido & †Vicenta Reyes,
†Prudencio & †Delgadina Reyes, †Jose & †Catalina Reyes,
†Mariano & †Beatrice Reyes, †Luis & †Antonia Reyes,
†Ursula Reyes, †Estefania & †Tobias Muna, †Ana R. & †Jose Castro,
†Remedio R. & Ignacio Dela Cruz

Sisters & Brothers In-Law:
†Dolores & †Manuel Reyes, †Teresa Flores, †Federico
Francisco & †Rosalia Flores, †Angelina & †Antonio Camacho &
†Vicente Borja, †Maria & †Francisco Borja, †Elizabeth &
†Manuel Camacho, †Victoria Flores, †Benjamin &
†Magdalena Flores, †Leonardo Flores, †Cecilia & †Jesus Boyer

Her memory will live forever in the hearts of her:

Husband: **Eduardo Bruggemann Flores**
Children & Families: Lydia F. & Arthur Santos & Children
Edwin F. & Ellen Barcinas & Children
Rebecca F. & Henry Pangelinan & Children
Edward F. & Maryann Agulto & Children
Fermin F. & Sophie Dela Cruz & Children
Alfred F. & Elihsa Wenio & Children
Janet F. & Juan Torres & Children
Anthony F. & Ramona Sablan & Children

Reared Child: James P. & Maryann P. Reyes & Children

Brothers & In-Laws: Donicio & Rosa Reyes
Alfonso & Anuncia Reyes

Sisters & Brothers In-Law: Estefania F. & †Vicente Camacho
Fermin F. & Rosalia Borja
Augustin F. & Carmen Tudela
Susana Reyes & †Mariano Mendiola
Magdalena F. & Vicente Santos
Baldobino F. & Andresina Torres & Bessie
Rosa Flores
Isabel F. & Maximo Tudela
Marino Flores
Joaquin F. & Rosita Perez

She is additionally survived by numerous Great Grand Children, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews and God-children

Daily mass is being offered at 6:00am and nightly rosary is being prayed at 7:00pm at San Jose Church in San Jose. On Thursday, October 23, 2008, her remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home at 7:30am to Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Burial will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please Join Us In Prayers
Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase!

Eduardo B. Flores and Children

Science & Technology

Consumer technology tips

By ROB PEGORARO
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

With barely a month left before the election, your inbox is likely to see a lot of unwanted traffic—not spam from strangers, but chain e-mails from people you know. Most of these messages, like chain e-mails in general, won't be true. If you'd like to try to do your part to upgrade the collective intelligence of the Internet, the polite way to debunk a bogus e-mail is to answer it with a brief, well-written message—no misspellings, no SHOUTING IN CAPITAL LETTERS, no exclamation points—that links to independent sources (snopes.com is, as ever, an excellent resource for this). Better yet, when you hit "reply to all" to send your response to every recipient of the first message, copy all their e-mail addresses from your message's "to:" or "cc:" header to its "bcc:" header, which will ensure that any subsequent conversation won't flood everybody's mailbox at once.

■■■

It's tempting to customize your Web browser with plug-ins, toolbars and extensions that pack in new features and options. But, all these extra components can eat up memory and destabilize your browser. Resist the temptation to install every interesting widget—especially if some pop-up ad insists that you do so. And, if you have gotten a little crazy with these add-ons, try getting rid of those beyond the core set of Adobe Reader, Flash, QuickTime, Java and Windows Media Player plug-ins.

■■■

In Internet Explorer, go to the Tools menu and select "Manage Add-ons"; in Firefox, choose "Add-ons" from its Tools menu. If your browser keeps crashing, try running it without add-ons—in IE's case, by going to the Start menu's All Programs list, then the Accessories folder and then the System Tools sub-folder to select "Internet Explorer (No Add-ons)." In Firefox's case, hit that All Programs menu, go to the Mozilla Firefox folder and select "Mozilla Firefox (Safe Mode)."

HELP FILE

By ROB PEGORARO
(c) 2008, The Washington Post

Q. We have upgraded to a digital TV, but we get only the local stations' analog signals, not their digital broadcasts. In the ads, they make it sound so simple. Am I the only one having this problem?

A. I told this reader that if he wasn't getting any digital signals in his home, there had to be something else wrong — maybe his TV was not, in fact digital, or perhaps he had a wire or a plug misplaced somewhere.

The latter possibility turned out to be the case. He wrote back that he'd plugged the antenna cable into the wrong input on the back of the set; connecting it to the right one yielded good digital reception.

This sort of "obvious" mistake happens more often than you might think. I can't tell you (which really means "I don't want to tell you") how many times I've cursed an uncooperative router when all along I'd simply forgotten to plug in a network cable.

■■■

Q. Is there any way to merge two iTunes Store accounts so I can play music bought on both on my iPhone?

A. If this reader were trying to play these downloads on a regular iPod, he'd be fine—but an iPhone or iPod Touch, each capable of buying directly from the iTunes Store, can accept only one iTunes account at a time. When asked if there was any way to merge two iTunes accounts, Apple spokesman Jason Roth sent back a three-word reply: "There is not." And this reader had too many songs under the old account to burn to CD, then copy back to the computer.

The best way to avoid this situation is to avoid iTunes songs locked with Apple's "digital rights management" system in favor of Tunes Plus downloads, which don't have those usage restrictions and offer better audio quality. If iTunes offers a song only in DRM'd format—let's call that "iTunes Minus"—buy it from Amazon's MP3 store (mp3.amazon.com) instead.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

SSG Julian A. Manglona

October 26, 1968 – October 9, 2008

Survived by:

Spouse: Brenda Doreen Cabrera Manglona
Children: Maxine Julianne Cabrera Manglona
Monica A. Manglona
Chelsie A. Manglona
Audrey P. Manglona
Rachel P. Manglona
Demiana P. Manglona
Draeshia Manibusan
Joden Camacho
Reared Son: Gino Pangelinan

Parents: Ben M. & Rita A. Manglona
Mother-In-Law: Margarita Tenorio Cabrera

Brothers, Sisters, and In-Laws:

†George A. Manglona & Kelly Y. Manglona
(George Jr., Allan, Wendy and Billy)
Cindy M. Attao & John D. Attao
(Geralynn, Johnathan and Lance)
Norman A. Manglona & Katherine D. Manglona
(Norman Jr., Travia and Storm)
Charlene M. Lizama & Joseph T. Lizama
(Ryan (Dre Joey), Joelene, Ritalene, Jonalene and Joseph Jr.)
Lisa M. Dela Cruz & Francisco Dela Cruz
(Divana (Mana Boy), Dana, Damian and Deveney)
Patrick A. Manglona & Marie P. Manglona
(Seth and Aaron)
Lorilynn Manglona-Mendiola & Joseph K. Mendiola
(Frankie M. Angel)
Sisters-In-Law: Karen Tenorio Cabrera
Jaclyn Michelle Cabrera

Predeceased by:

Father-In-Law: †Maximo Camacho Cabrera
Brother: †George A. Manglona
Godparents: †Manuel & †Rose L. Cruz
Grandparents: †Lucas & †Concepcion Manglona
†Ignacio & †Manuela Aquiningoc

Daily Rosary as follows:
Saipan, San Vicente Church, 6:00 p.m. Mass, with Rosary immediately after.
Tinian, Mr. & Mrs. Ben & Rita Manglona's Residence (Chapel) Rosary: 7:00 p.m.

Funeral arrangements will be announced on a later date.

Ginen I Familia

Life & Style

Madonna and Guy Ritchie announce their divorce

LONDON (AP)—After countless denials of domestic trouble, Madonna and Guy Ritchie announced Wednesday they are divorcing after nearly eight years of marriage. The couple's announcement brings to an end a showbiz union that spanned the Atlantic and dominated the gossip columns.

Madonna—"Madge" to the British press—and her filmmaker husband were always greater tabloid fodder in England, where they lived. The pop star seemed to take to English life, spending much of her time at the couple's 1,200-acre country estate in Wiltshire, and to some ears, adopting a slight British accent.

But in recent years, reports began to accumulate that they were on the rocks. Over the summer, Madonna was linked - unfairly, she said - to the breakup of New York Yankee Alex Rodriguez and his ex-wife Cynthia.

The couple issued a brief statement by their representatives Wednesday, asking for respect from the press for their family's sake.

A financial settlement has not been agreed by the wealthy couple, who also must decide child custody issues.

Madonna and Ritchie, director of "Snatch" and "Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels," married in December 2000 at Skibo Castle, in the Scottish Highlands. The couple have two children: Rocco, 8, and David Banda, 3, who was adopted from Malawi in 2006. Madonna also has a 12-year-old daughter, Lourdes, from her relationship with personal trainer Carlos Leon.

The couple are reportedly worth some $525 million, the bulk of that belonging to Madonna. Ritchie has an estimated $35 million fortune. They own homes in London, Los Angeles and New York, and the retreat in Wiltshire.

"Who would have thunk it?" Madonna told Vogue magazine in an interview published in August 2005. "The last thing I thought I would do is marry some laddish, shooting, pub-going nature lover and the last thing he thought he was going to do was marry some cheeky girl from the Midwest who doesn't take no for an answer!"

AP

In this Dec. 2, 2007 file photo, director Guy Ritchie and his wife Madonna attend a special screening of "Revolver" hosted by the Cinema Society and Piaget at the Tribeca Grand Hotel in New York.

In the documentary "I'm Going to Tell You a Secret," Madonna gets behind the bar at a London tavern and offers to get a beer for Ritchie. He grins at her and says, "Please, Mrs. Ritchie, you get in there and pull me a pint."

Madonna was to perform concerts Wednesday and Thursday in Boston as her "Sticky and Sweet" tour continued. Ritchie's latest movie, "RocknRolla," recently opened to mixed reviews.

In London, Ritchie's mother, Lady Amber Leighton, told reporters that the family wouldn't be making any statement to the media.

Lawyers said the couple would likely try to come to an agreement before heading to court.

"The judgment of the court would be to try and assess what they came in with and divide what they built up fairly equally," said David Allison, a lawyer with Family Law in Partnership, a London firm.

The needs of the couple's children will also be factored by the court, as they were in Britain's most recent high-profile celebrity divorce, the battle between former Beatle Paul McCartney and model Heather Mills. In that case, McCartney and Mills fought over money and custody of their young daughter.

Mills received 24.3 million pounds in the divorce after four years of marriage.

"The needs of children figure quite highly, and that was one of the reasons Heather Mills got a gigantic amount of money, despite the fact that the bulk of Sir Paul's money was made before the marriage," Allison said.

The Sun newspaper splashed the split across its front page Wednesday, under the headline: "We're Divorcing."

Madonna, who was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame last year, has found lesser success as a screen star, starring in the musical "Evita" and the comedy "Desperately Seeking Susan." Her most notable collaboration with Ritchie was the panned 2002 film "Swept Away."

She married Sean Penn in 1985, but they divorced four years later.

'Housewives' actor injured in motorcycle accident

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Gale Harold was in critical condition Wednesday after the "Desperate Housewives" actor crashed his motorcycle the day before, a hospital spokeswoman said. Harold was awaiting further tests at USC Medical Center, spokeswoman Adelaida De La Cerda said. She gave no further details on his injuries.

Publicist Nancy Seltzer said Wednesday that Harold fractured his shoulder, and "Housewives" creator and executive producer Marc Cherry said he apparently has swelling on the brain but is expected to recover.

"We're hearing he's going to be fine, but he's going to be recovering for a couple of weeks," Cherry said.

Selzer said no one else was injured, but did not provide further details on the Tuesday wreck, which was first reported by TMZ. The California Highway Patrol said it had no information about the accident.

AP

In this photo released by ABC, actor Gale Harold is shown in a scene from "Desperate Housewives."

Harold plays Jackson, the boyfriend of Teri Hatcher's character Susan Mayer on the ABC show. The character plays a pivotal role in the fifth season's eighth episode, a November sweeps installment which finds several Wisteria Lane residents trapped inside a nightclub fire.

Cherry said Harold had been filming scenes all week for the episode and had been scheduled to be on set Tuesday. He said they would await the actor's prognosis before deciding how to proceed, but that at least some changes would have to be made.

"We know we're going to rewrite one scene," he said.

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Max Payne
Friday 4:25 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:30
Mon and Tue 4:25 7:30
Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Max Payne is a maverick cop—a mythic anti-hero—determined to track down those responsible for the brutal murders of his family and partner. Hell-bent on revenge, his obsessive investigation takes him on a nightmare journey into a dark underworld. As the mystery deepens, Max is forced to battle enemies beyond the natural world and face an unthinkable betrayal.

Igor
Friday 4:10 7:25 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:25 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:10 7:25
Mon and Tue 4:10 7:25
Steve Busceni (v), Jay Leno (v)
Comedy, Animated • Rated PG
Synopsis
In a land of mad scientists and diabolical inventions, what do you do when you're born with a hunch on your back? You become an Igor. A twist on the classic monster movie, that tells the story of one Igor—who's sick of being a lowly lab assistant with a "Yes Master's" degree—and dreams of becoming a scientist. When his cruel master kicks the bucket a week before the annual Evil Science Fair, Igor finally gets his chance.

★ ★ ★

Body of Lies
Friday 4:30 7:20 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:30 7:20 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:30 7:20
Mon and Tue 4:30 7:20
Leonardo DiCaprio, Russel Crowe
Thriller, Adaptation • Rated R
Synopsis
Roger Ferris is the best man U.S. Intelligence has on the ground, in places where human life is worth no more than the information it can get you. In operations that take him around the globe, Ferris' next breath often depends on the voice at the other end of a secure phone line—CIA veteran Ed Hoffman. Strategizing from a laptop in the suburbs, Hoffman is on the trail of an emerging terrorist leader who has orchestrated a campaign of bombings while eluding the most sophisticated intelligence network in the world.

The Express
Friday 4:00 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:15 4:00 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:15 4:00 7:10
Mon and Tue 4:00 7:10
Dennis Quaid, Rob Brown
Drama, Biopic • Rated PG 13

Beverly Hills Chihuahua
Friday 4:05 7:00 9:30
Saturday 1:00 4:05 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:00 4:05 7:00
Mon and Tue 4:05 7:00
Drew Barrymore (v), Andy Garcia (v)
Comedy, Adventure • Rated PG

Quarantine
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:15 7:15
Mon and Tue 4:15 7:15
Jennifer Carpenter, Jay Hernandez
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Eagle Eye
Friday 4:20 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:20 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:20 7:05
Mon and Tue 4:20 7:05
Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan
Drama • Rated PG 13

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Day 1 in Spears case ends without jury

AP

In this Sept. 7, 2008 file photo, Britney Spears is seen at the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards held at Paramount Pictures Studio Lot in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The first day of Britney Spears' misdemeanor driving without a license trial ended Wednesday without a single juror being seated.

Potential jurors expressed a range of opinions on Spears and the matter during initial questioning. One man labeled the idea of a trial "ridiculous," while another potential panelist indicated he blamed the paparazzi, not Spears, for her troubles.

Only one person was dismissed from the jury pool on Wednesday. The woman indicated she had some previous contact with Spears' business manager.

Questioning was scheduled to restart on Thursday morning, and opening statements could begin later in the day if a jury is seated.

The charge is the last remnant of a case that stemmed from an accident last August in which Spears, who did not have a valid California license, hit a parked car and left the scene. Drivers are supposed to get a California license within 10 days of establishing residency.

Spears, 26, did not appear in court on Wednesday, and may not attend the trial. Her attorney said Wednesday that no final decision on Spears' participation in the trial had been made.

Her father, James Spears, may be called as a witness in the case, which is expected to last three days. Other potential witnesses include police officers and an online producer for gossip site X17online.com.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Design competition 'Project Runway' pins a winner

NEW YORK (AP)—A soft-spoken designer from Portland, Ore., has the competition sewn up on Bravo's hit reality show "Project Runway." A quartet of judges picked Leanne Marshall in the season finale that aired Wednesday night. Show mentor Tim Gunn served as a guest judge after Jennifer Lopez dropped out because of a foot injury. Marshall showed a wave-inspired collection draped in large panels of white, cream and shades of turquoise. She beat out Korto Momolu and Kenley Collins and won $100,000 to start her own line, among other prizes. "Project Runway" pits fashion designers against each other in weekly challenges hosted by supermodel Heidi Klum. The three-way design-off marked the first all-female lineup at the series finale.

Janet Jackson resumes tour after bout of vertigo

WASHINGTON (AP)—Janet Jackson has returned to the stage in Washington, D.C., after an illness forced her to cancel a string of shows on her "Rock Witchu" tour.

Fireworks exploded at the outset of her show at the Verizon Center, and Jackson emerged from the smoke. Jackson's publicist said Wednesday she has been suffering from migraine-associated vertigo, which led to two weeks of scrapped shows. She is being treated for the illness, which is characterized by dizziness, imbalance and other symptoms. Manager Kenneth Crear says in a statement that Jackson is feeling better and ready to continue her first North American tour in seven years. Upcoming stops include Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, New York and East Rutherford, N.J.

Brad Paisley and wife expecting their 2nd child

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A publicist for Brad Paisley says Paisley and his wife, Kimberly Williams-Paisley, are expecting their second child. Spokeswoman Darlene Bieber didn't provide any other details Wednesday, but an announcement on Williams-Paisley's Web site says the 37-year-old actress is due in April. The couple's first child was born in February 2007 and is named Huck for Mark Twain's character. Paisley will host the 42nd annual Country Music Association Awards with Carrie Underwood in Nashville, Tennessee, on November 12.

Lisa 'Left Eye' Lopes solo album set for release

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Recordings by Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, who died six years ago, will be released as a solo album on Nov. 11. The album features a collection of songs Lopes recorded but never released, family friend Jay Marose said Wednesday. Lopes, who was part of the hit '90s group TLC, was killed in a car crash in Honduras on April 25, 2002. She talked often about her death and told friends she expected to die young, Marose said.

What, me worry? MAD to auction early works

NEW YORK (AP)—Alfred E. Neuman, the grinning face with the flapping ears, has gazed out from the covers of MAD magazine for half a century - becoming such a familiar presence that Charles, Prince of Wales, may have felt it necessary to deny that he looked like him.

The heir to the British throne, then 9 years old, apparently sent a letter to that effect in 1958. On Buckingham Palace stationery and mailed from a nearby post office, it was published in MAD's letters column.

Pretty tough to deny the resemblance, though. Witness a last batch of original drawings of Alfred and other early works being put up for auction by the magazine, which since 1952 has kept legions of American youths reading under the covers with flashlights.

The sale is scheduled for Nov. 14 at the Heritage Auction Galleries in Dallas and online. A preview exhibition of the 36 items to be sold will be held at New York's Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art on Oct. 29.

MAD, founded by William Gaines and Harvey Kurzman, became widely popular for its mix of zany, absurdist and irreverent humor—especially its devastating parodies of Hollywood films and satirical commentaries on pompous politicians and self-important celebrities.

MAD's current editor, John Ficarra, said the 36 original works had been held out of previous sales of the magazine's archives at Heritage, Christie's and Sotheby's.

"We wanted to hold onto them for as long as possible," he said. "Not as much as a tribute to the early history of MAD ... but because these paintings were covering up quite a few holes in the walls. This auction leaves us no choice. Now we have to patch and paint.

"We have waited until all the rest of the great artwork of MAD was sold to offer this final collection. It just doesn't get any better than this."

The collection is mostly made up of Alfred E. Neuman covers, including the first one drawn by the late Norman Mingo for MAD's issue No. 30 of December 1956. It shows the gap-toothed icon as a "write-in candidate for president," saying "What—me worry?" as an elephant and donkey glare angrily at each other in the background.

That line has been the slogan for scores of Alfred E. Neuman

AP

This picture, provided by Heritage Auction Galleries, shows the in 1956 cover art from MAD Magazine issue #30, featuring the iconic figure of Alfred E. Neuman in an illustration by artist Norman Mingo.

covers over the next 52 years.

A 1957 cover shows the mascot in triplicate, substituting for the three "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" monkeys. Unlike the familiar chimps, Neuman has eyes, ears and mouth uncovered.

A third cover from 1969 has Neuman dressed like Uncle Sam in the famous James Montgomery Flagg recruiting poster of World War I. But instead of "Uncle Sam wants you," the Neuman figure is asking, "Who needs you?" a comment tailored for the Vietnam War then going on. The drawing is signed, "James Montgomery Mingo."

Others show Neuman as George Washington, a Rolls Royce hood ornament and carved on Mount Rushmore. A 1974 cover, by Mingo, substitutes President Nixon and Vice President Spiro Agnew for Paul Newman and Robert Redford in "The Sting."

Wife makes age an issue by lying to her husband

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Andrew" for five years. I consider him to be my best friend. We have known each other for six years. I am 38, and Andrew is 33.

My problem is Andrew thinks I'm 34. I didn't exactly tell him my true age way back when, and he believes I am four years younger than I actually am.

We want children, and I know that this is the time to come clean. But I'm not sure how my husband will react when he hears the news, and I'm afraid he may leave me. I have prayed about this, and it seems the best course is the truth. What should I do?

YOUNGER THAN MY YEARS

DEAR YOUNGER: It would be better to tell your husband the truth while your biological clock is still ticking, rather than wait until the alarm goes off and your ovaries shut down. Because you want to start a family, this is something you need to also discuss with your gynecologist because a pregnancy after the age of 35 can be considered "high risk," and age can also have an impact on a woman's ability to conceive. If Andrew loves you, I doubt that he'll leave you—but if you lied on your marriage license, you committed fraud, and he may have the grounds to do so.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 15, and class pictures are coming soon—again. I think I look better in photographs when I am not smiling. If I don't smile for my school picture, though, the photographers make a fuss over it and insist upon taking it over and over until I give in and smile. I explain why I don't like to smile for pictures, but they won't listen. What can I say to them that will get them to let me look the way I want in my pictures?

By the way, my parents don't care what my school picture looks like because we get professional portraits done as a family each year.

"SAY CHEESE" IN FOLSOM, CALIF.

DEAR "SAY CHEESE": The only thing worse than a scowl is a smile that looks forced. If you prefer not to open your mouth and "grin," that should be your privilege.

There is a compromise you can strike. For a more pleasant expression without "smiling," just lift the corners of your eyes and mouth a quarter of an inch. (Try it in front of a mirror.) That's what I recommend you do this year.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please help. My husband of 52 years is going deaf, but he refuses to get a hearing aid. He claims we don't have the money. (Not true.) I have to tell him everything two or three times, and it's making me crazy. Sometimes he'll misquote something our pastor said in church, and I have to tell him he heard it wrong. What can I do?

LOSING MY SANITY IN GEORGIA

DEAR LOSING YOUR SANITY: When the senses begin to erode, it is not uncommon for the person to go into denial. Contact your husband's doctor, explain what's going on and tell him or her that your husband needs to be evaluated by an audiologist. At his next annual physical, his doctor should refer him to one. That's when you should assert yourself and not let him "forget" the appointment.

A hearing aid may—or may not—be the solution to your husband's problem, but the cost of a hearing aid would be a small price to pay to save your sanity.

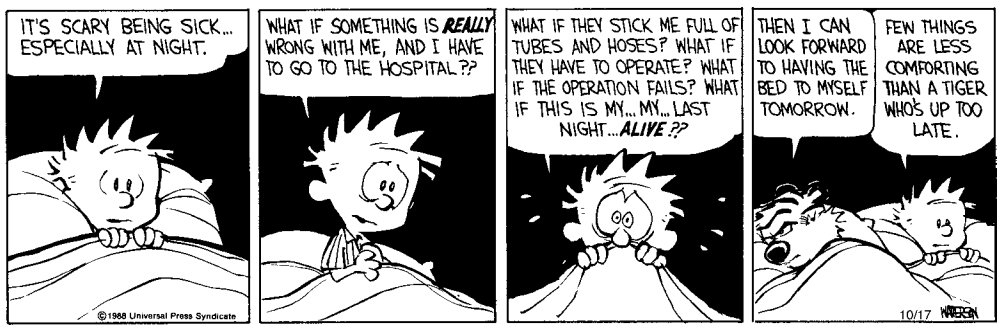
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IT'S SCARY BEING SICK... ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT.
WHAT IF SOMETHING IS REALLY WRONG WITH ME, AND I HAVE TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL??
WHAT IF THEY STICK ME FULL OF TUBES AND HOSES? WHAT IF THEY HAVE TO OPERATE? WHAT IF THE OPERATION FAILS? WHAT IF THIS IS MY... MY... LAST NIGHT... ALIVE??
THEN I CAN LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING THE BED TO MYSELF TOMORROW.
FEW THINGS ARE LESS COMFORTING THAN A TIGER WHO'S UP TOO LATE.
©1988 Universal Press Syndicate
10/17 WATTERSON

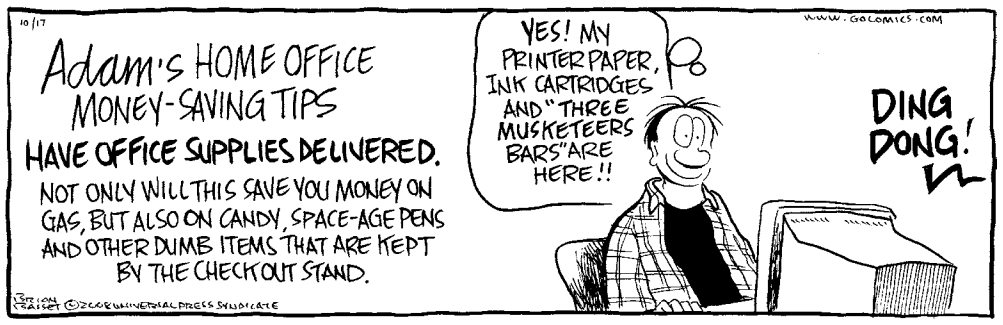
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

THERE'S DOC BOY WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND. AND THERE HE IS WITH HIS PRIZE PIG!
ALBUM
www.garfield.com
© 2008 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
I THINK I HAVE THOSE IN BACKWARD
HARD TO TELL... THEY'RE BOTH WEARING RIBBONS
JIM DAVIS 10-17
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

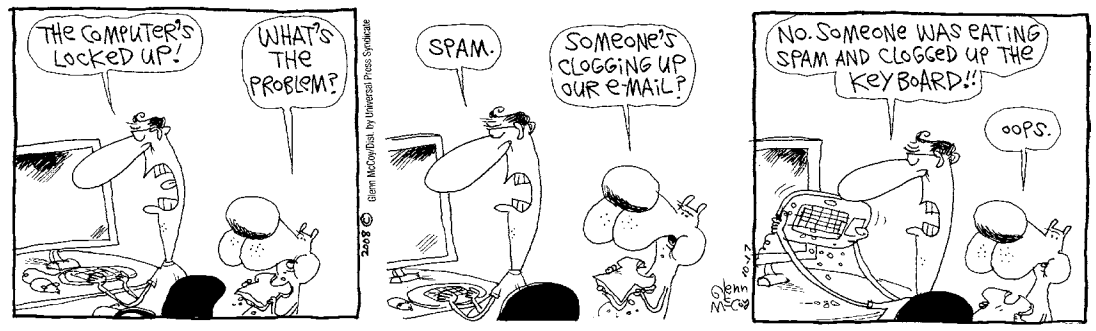
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


10/17
Adam's HOME OFFICE MONEY-SAVING TIPS
HAVE OFFICE SUPPLIES DELIVERED.
NOT ONLY WILL THIS SAVE YOU MONEY ON GAS, BUT ALSO ON CANDY, SPACE-AGE PENS AND OTHER DUMB ITEMS THAT ARE KEPT BY THE CHECKOUT STAND.
YES! MY PRINTER PAPER, INK CARTRIDGES AND "THREE MUSKETEERS BARS" ARE HERE!!
DING DONG!
WWW.GOCOMICS.COM
BRIAN BASSET ©2008 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


THE COMPUTER'S LOCKED UP!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
SPAM.
SOMEONE'S CLOGGING UP OUR E-MAIL?
NO. SOMEONE WAS EATING SPAM AND CLOGGED UP THE KEYBOARD!!
OOPS.
2008 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

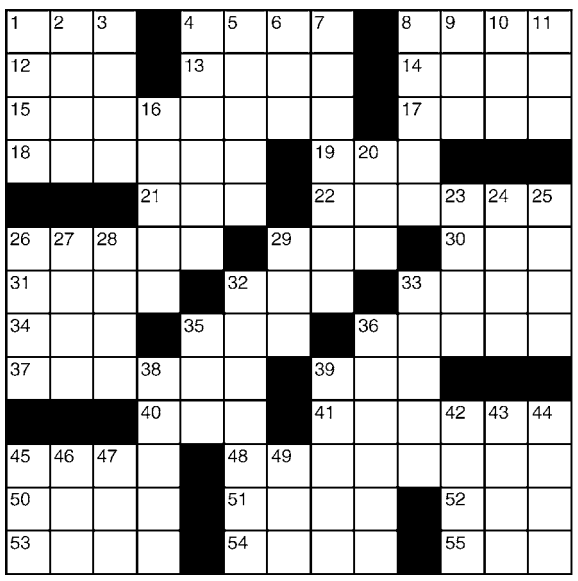
ACROSS
1 Rotation stat
4 Squabbles
8 Head light?
12 Foreman foe
13 Black, in verse
14 Smell
15 Hot pepper
17 November responsibility
18 Tali
19 Infinitesimal
21 — -de-France
22 Heap
26 Malt shop orders
29 Favoring
30 Tolstoy or Delibes
31 String instruments
32 Go up and down
33 Founder
34 Shape shifter?
35 Driver's license datum
36 Battery terminal
37 White who played Steve Urkel
39 Historic period
40 Girl
41 Those with no chance for parole
45 Kermit, for one
48 Window blind
50 Contemporary coin
51 Iowa city
52 Sch. org.
53 Noggin
54 Mysterious character
55 Nevertheless

DOWN
1 Malay prince
2 Blueprint
3 "Got —?"
4 Drives away
5 Overweight
6 Triumphed
7 Spiel, often
8 Hut
9 Big bother
10 Sodom evacuee
11 Raw rock
16 Wanted-poster info
20 Listener
23 Hodgepodge
24 Hang
25 Oxen's burden
26 N. in a sentence
27 Gumbo need
28 Transaction
29 "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" network
32 Glass vessel used to create a vacuum
33 Glitch
35 Red or Black
36 Melodic
38 Incite
39 Actress Barkin
42 Glimpse
43 Ceremony
44 Membership
45 Calendar abbr.
46 Regret
47 Man-mouse link
49 — Dar'ya (Aral Sea feeder)

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	O	L	D	■	B	A	B	A	■	H	I	E
A	D	A	R	■	A	L	E	S	■	O	D	D
H	O	M	E	F	R	I	E	S	■	M	E	G
T	R	E	A	D	S	■	■	E	N	E	M	Y
■	■	■	M	A	■	H	I	T	U	P	■	■
A	S	H	Y	■	J	O	B	■	B	A	R	D
L	E	O	■	■	A	M	I	■	■	G	O	O
L	A	M	A	■	Y	E	S	■	F	E	E	T
■	■	■	E	N	T	E	R	■	H	I	■	■
T	I	B	I	A	■	■	■	B	A	L	S	A	M
H	O	R	■	H	O	M	E	P	L	A	T	E
E	W	E	■	O	R	A	L	■	I	R	O	N
M	A	W	■	E	A	S	T	■	P	I	P	S

Yesterday's answer 10-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eminem, 36; Wyclef Jean, 36; Chris Kirkpatrick, 37; Margot Kidder, 60

Happy Birthday: It's a money game this year, so play to win with a little ingenuity and some work on your part. There is no room for laziness. Progressive action concerning money, investments and how you are going to get ahead will bring results you can be proud of. Your numbers are 9, 15, 17, 23, 25, 28, 33

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take your chances and apply for something that appears to be out of reach. You'll be surprised by the results you get and how others respond to what you do. Don't let someone ruin your moment. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't be too sure of yourself. You'll be better off running your ideas by partners before you put too much on the line. A peer will have a suggestion that will help you make a decision. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You can tempt someone into your way of thinking. Appeal to the emotional aspect of any situation and you will show you are a true humanitarian. Uncertainties will be put to rest once your intentions are revealed. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You'll need to keep a secret. An added responsibility will not become a burden if you make adjustments to accommodate it. Your insight will put the people who depend on you at ease. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Talk to a trusted friend about any troubles you are experiencing with a lover or family member. You will have to adjust your plans if you want to keep the peace. Deception regarding feelings and intentions is likely. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be spontaneous and act impulsively regarding love and romance. Your ability to relax, have fun and do things out of the ordinary will be a pleasant surprise for someone in your life needing a pick-me-up. Your sincere gestures will be well-received. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Money, health and legal matters may be on the line if you let an emotional situation cost you. Don't offer to pay for someone else's mistakes or to give a handout to someone who is probably not being totally upfront. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Form a partnership that allows you to expand your interests at home and at work. Be true to yourself and not to a cause unworthy of your dedication, determination and loyalty. Travel to destinations offering something unusual and educational. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Someone will try to stand in your way. Consider why this is happening and if, in fact, it is to protect you, not to hold you back. It's time to do a little soul-searching in order to figure out who is on your side and who isn't. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You owe it to yourself and the people you love to take a break. Plan a short trip that will rejuvenate your relationships. You will learn something unique about who you are and what you are truly capable of if you put your practical side on hold. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Make some changes at home that will increase the value or make it more desirable. An investment made will lead to your financial freedom. Sign contracts, deal with legal matters or tend to health issues but don't exaggerate. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Avoid making a decision that may cause a rift between you and a partner. Someone who has been controlling an emotional situation may question your position, causing uncertainties. Don't be afraid to walk away. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You express your thoughts with pizzazz. You are imaginative, constructive and precise in the way you do things. You are in constant search of knowledge and facts.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	1		2		3		6	
		2		9		7		
8								2
3								4
	9						7	
5								6
4								5
		8		1		4		
	6		5		9		2	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	7	9	4	8	2	1	3
2	8	3	5	6	1	7	9	4
4	9	1	3	7	2	5	6	8
5	7	9	1	8	4	3	2	6
1	2	8	6	5	3	9	4	7
3	4	6	7	2	9	8	5	1
7	3	4	2	1	5	6	8	9
8	6	5	4	9	7	1	3	2
9	1	2	8	3	6	4	7	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HYBRID CARS **Solution: 7 letters**

L	T	M	N	E	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	S	P	R
O	E	O	E	A	S	M	U	E	L	O	R	T	E	P
C	S	S	R	T	E	K	L	E	I	E	E	C	R	O
O	R	T	E	Q	S	L	C	T	M	C	H	O	F	P
M	E	O	T	I	U	Y	C	U	H	A	P	M	O	U
O	V	R	A	F	D	E	S	N	R	U	O	P	R	L
T	I	A	X	L	L	N	O	G	L	T	W	O	M	A
I	D	G	E	E	O	L	E	S	K	E	E	N	A	R
V	R	E	S	C	O	A	I	L	I	N	R	E	N	O
E	E	N	T	G	B	O	D	G	B	G	A	N	C	T
S	T	G	Y	L	N	E	H	E	H	I	D	T	E	O
I	H	I	E	(F)	M	T	S	V	D	N	A	S	F	M
X	G	S	(U)	A	N	A	E	N	E	E	R	G	A	O
A	I	(E)	N	E	L	B	A	R	U	D	O	L	S	V
T	(L)	D	H	E	A	L	T	H	Y	G	R	E	N	E

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BEV, Blend, Clean, Components, Consumers, Demand, Design, Diesel, Diverse, Durable, Emissions, Energy, Engine, Fuel, Full, Green, Healthy, Lighter, Loaded, Locomotives, Motor, Move, Performance, Petroleum, Popular, Power, Propulsion, Rechargeable, Safe, Sale, Selection, Storage, System, Tank, Taxes, Taxis, Technology, Torque, Trend, Trucks, Weight

Yesterday's Answer: Wigmaker

SALE: The logics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Press Syndicate. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 each for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6688. **Sorry,** no online orders for this special offer.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

For Rent-New apartment/Studio type. Only $200/month. Brand new. Fully furnished, quiet & accesible area, 24 hrs water with water heater. Located in Finasisu (across NMC). For more info-pls. call Danny Siu @ 287-2387

MISCELLANEOUS

English lesson American teacher 20 years experience. Afternoon, evening, your home or mine. Call RaeAnn @322-2032.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, -v- ANTHONY C. REYES and JOANNE P. REYES, Defendants. : CIVIL ACTION NO. 01-149

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 6, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: That certain tract or parcel of real property situated in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot No. E.A. 743-4-5-2, more particularly bounded and described as follows.

Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 46,549.732 meters north and 48,975.746 meters east on the Northern Mariana Islands Coordinate System of 1966;

Thence S 30 12' 53" W, 33.53 meters to Corner 1;
Thence N 51 30' 20" W, 33.08 meters to Corner 2;
Thence N 30 12' 53" E, 31.53 meters to Corner 3;
Thence S 51 30' 20" W, 33.08 meters to the point of beginning;

The above described property contains an area of 1,032 square meters, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. 2061/89 and recorded as Commonwealth Recorder's file No. 89-579.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, November 14, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 10th day of October, 2008:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

WHATZIT Solution:
Look on the bright side

GARAGE/YARD SALE

OFF ISLAND SALE: Generator $450 mtn bike $125 kayak $300 lg sofa $300 loveseat $150 lounge chair $125 metal shelves $100 king bed/mat $350 full futon $100. Lighting, appliances, tools, hardware and more. Priced to sale. 233.0367 or sunmove2008@live.com

AUTOMOBILE

1998 TOYOTA 4RUNNER: One owner. Very fine condition/maintenance. $5700. 233.0367 or sunmove2008@live.com

www.saipantribune.com

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. The Estate of MARIANO LIZAMA ALDAN, Deceased, and ELSA BANCA ALDAN, Defendant.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-487) NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 23, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1272, situated in Kagaman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 858 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 24 dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 96-2566, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, November 7, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of September, 2008.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 234-7144 or 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

AGENCY: Commonwealth Development Authority
POSITION: Comptroller
PAYLEVEL/STEP: Ungraded
SALARY: $50,000 - $65,000
TERM: Two Years, renewable

CLOSING DATE: **Open Until Filled**

Position Summary: The position is an excepted service position and is responsible for directing the fiscal function of the organization in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and other regulatory and advisory organizations. The employee provides the Board of Directors with an independent and expert evaluation on financial issues, the fiscal health of the Authority; and recommends changes that will improve the quality of fiscal planning and management of CDA. The incumbent shall also perform other functions as the Executive Director and the Board may require. The position is an Officer of the Authority.

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/s/ **JOSE K. LIFOIFOI**
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Rollins, Hamels lead Phillies into World Series

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The losingest team in pro sports history was soaked in champagne and whooping it up Wednesday night. Next stop for these Philadelphia Phillies: the World Series.

Jimmy Rollins got them rollin' with a leadoff home run, Cole Hamels pitched his third gem of the playoffs and Philadelphia beat the bumbling Los Angeles Dodgers 5-1 to win the NL championship series 4-1 for its first pennant since 1993.

"After hearing about the '93 team over and over and over again, we finally have a chance to make our mark," Rollins said. "This was an organization that I felt when I got here I wanted to try to change. And I had my opportunity to. You know, we had been used to losing."

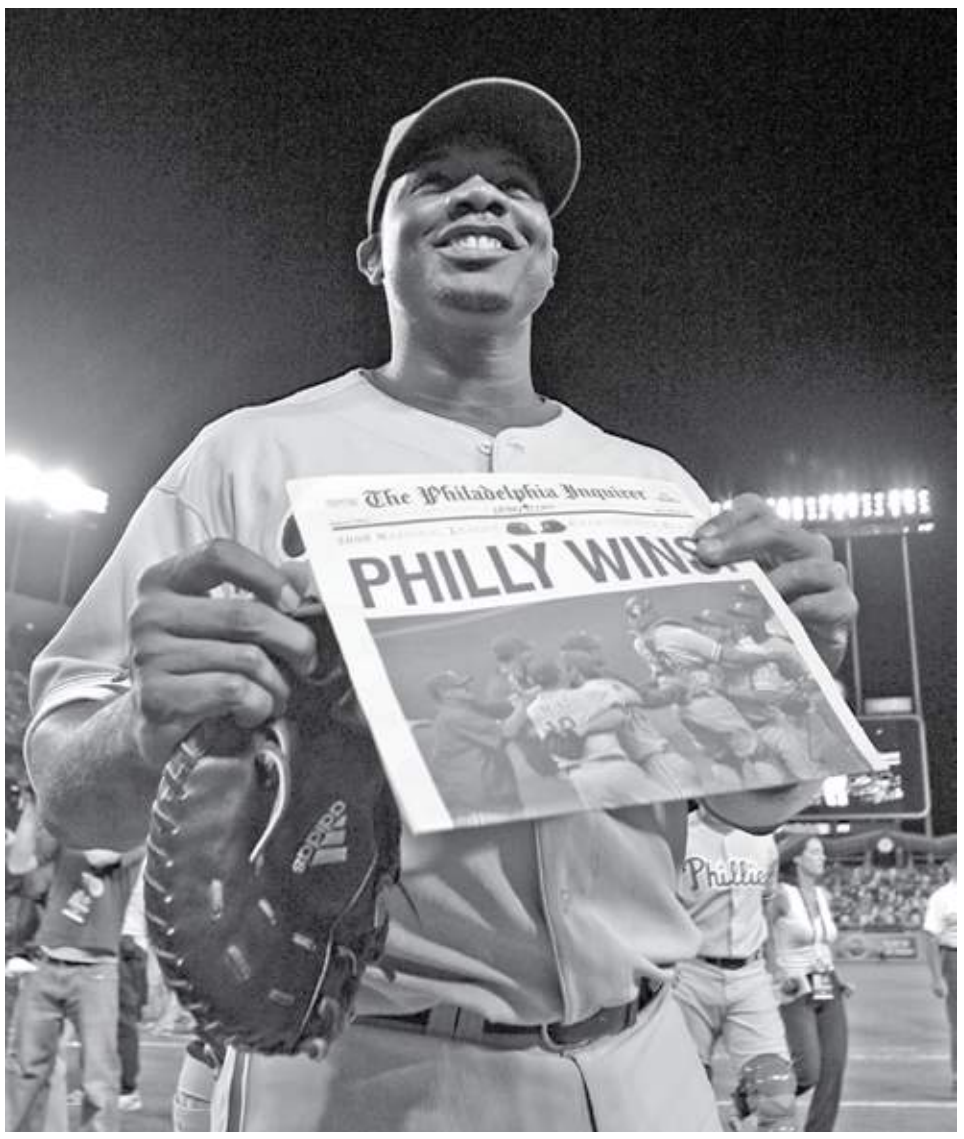
Now, the Phillies will go for their second World Series title beginning next Wednesday night at Tampa Bay or Boston. The Rays lead the Red Sox 3-1 in the ALCS, which resumes Thursday night at Fenway Park.

Last year, the Phillies became the first professional team to lose 10,000 games. This season, the ball is bouncing their way.

The NL East champions, who didn't clinch a playoff berth until the final weekend of the season, took advantage of three errors by shortstop Rafael Furcal in the fifth inning and shrugged off another homer by Manny Ramirez.

Brad Lidge closed it out for the Phillies, who won their lone championship in 1980 by beating Kansas City in six games. They also reached the World Series in 1915, 1950, 1983 and 1993, when they lost to Toronto in six games on Joe Carter's ninth-inning homer off Mitch Williams.

Now they're headed back, carrying the hopes of a championship-starved city that hasn't had a title to celebrate since the NBA's 76ers won it all in 1983.



AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Ryan Howard holds up a newspaper after the ninth inning in Game 5 of the National League baseball championship series against the Los Angeles Dodgers Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008, in Los Angeles.

"This is for the city for Philadelphia," manager Charlie Manuel said. "We have one more step, one big step—then we're going to make a grand parade."

You can bet your last cheesesteak, Broad Street is primed for a party. And those Philly fans, who always expect failure, can relax—at least for a week.

"These guys are going crazy right now," slugger Ryan Howard said. "I can only imagine how it is in Philadelphia."

Back home, jubilant Phillies fans poured into the city streets, jumping on cars and celebrating.

Ramirez homered in the sixth to end Hamels' shutout bid in what might have been his final game with the Dodgers. The slugging left fielder, who hit .520 with four homers, 10 RBIs and 11 walks in eight playoff games, can become a free agent after the World Series. He batted .396 with 17 homers and 53 RBIs in 53 regular-season games for the Dodgers after being acquired July 31 from Boston.

On the bench, Joe Torre came up short in the postseason again. He won four World Series in his first five years as manager of the New York Yankees from 1996-2000, but hasn't won one since. This was his first year as the Dodgers' skipper after 12 with the Yankees.

"I was proud to be their manager," Torre said. "This was an up-and-down year. I think they learned a lot. They learned to come together. This game tonight got a little ugly in the middle with the defense, but they never stopped plugging away. And that's what John Wooden taught me a long time ago, that it's not always the club that wins that you're proudest of. And I certainly was satisfied with what I saw here."

For Manuel, it was an emotional night. His 87-year-old mother died Friday, shortly before the Phillies won 8-5 in Game 2.

"I guarantee you my mom's watching right now," he said after Wednesday's victory.

Rollins, last year's NL MVP who dropped off considerably this year, also hit a leadoff homer in the first-round clincher at Milwaukee.

"This is definitely the first step," he said. "We've taken a lot of steps, but this is definitely the biggest step and the first step in the right direction. We've just to go out there and find a way to win four more."

Hamels, the series MVP, limited the Dodgers to five hits in seven innings. The 24-year-old lefty has allowed three runs in 22 innings during the postseason, with two wins over Los Angeles and another over the Brewers in the first round. He'll have ample rest to pitch Game 1 of the World Series.

"We were able to enjoy this moment," Hamels said. "To get an award like this is something surreal."

Ryan Madson worked a scoreless eighth and Lidge blanked Los Angeles in the ninth.

Ramirez is one of several high-profile free agents who might have played their final game for the Dodgers, along with Furcal, Nomar Garciaparra, Jeff Kent, Casey Blake, Derek Lowe and Greg Maddux.

Furcal, who missed 125 games with back problems this year before being activated in late September, tied a postseason record by committing three errors in the fifth, leading to two unearned runs.

"It's very frustrating the last game of the series at home to play like that," Furcal said. "It's very disappointing to me."

In the first, Rollins drove a full-count pitch from loser Chad Billingsley over the right-center fence. The switch-hitter came to the plate with only two hits in 17 at-bats in the series.

"They lived by the homer and they died by the homer," Torre said. "They got us this time. That was huge."

Billingsley walked Rollins, who stole second, and Chase Utley in the third before Howard and Pat Burrell hit RBI singles with two outs to make it 3-0. Chan Ho Park relieved with the bases loaded and worked out of trouble.

Billingsley, 6-0 with a 1.60 ERA in his last seven regular-season starts at home, lasted just 2 2-3 innings. The 24-year-old right-hander, who went 16-10 with a 3.14 ERA this season, gave up a career-high eight runs in 2 1-3 innings in Game 2, won by the Phillies 8-5.

The Phillies made it 5-0 in the fifth against Maddux thanks to the errors by Furcal. The first two came on one play, when he booted Burrell's potential inning-ending double-play grounder and then threw the ball away, allowing one run to score. The second came when Furcal made another throwing error on Carlos Ruiz's two-out grounder, drawing boos from the disappointed Dodger Stadium crowd of 56,800.

The only other player to commit three errors in one inning in the postseason, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, was Dodgers center fielder Willie Davis, who did so in the fifth inning of Game 2 in the 1966 World Series against Baltimore.

The crowd came alive in the bottom of the fifth after a leadoff single by Blake when Hall of Famer Tom Lasorda, who managed the Dodgers from 1977-96, stood near the team's dugout waving a white towel, with the image shown on the video board. Matt Kemp followed with a single, but rookie Blake DeWitt grounded into his second double play of the game and Kent struck out as a pinch hitter.

Ramirez hit a 1-2 pitch over the right-field wall with two outs in the sixth, but Russell Martin took a called third strike to end the inning.

Hamels walked Kemp and pinch-hitter Garciaparra with two outs in the seventh before throwing a called third strike past Kent—the last of his 104 pitches.

Rays switch to Kazmir in Game 5 against Red Sox

BOSTON (AP)—The Tampa Bay Rays are giving Scott Kazmir the chance to pitch them into the World Series. The 24-year-old left-hander was moved up in the rotation so he could start in the potential AL pennant clincher against the Boston Red Sox on Thursday night at Fenway Park. The move keeps Kazmir on his regular rest and bumps scheduled starter James Shields to the if-necessary Game 6 at home Saturday.

"I was very eager for this opportunity to get back out there and try to redeem myself from my last outing," said Kazmir, who allowed five runs in 4 1-3 innings in Game 2. "I'm not really going to think about it too much, about 'This win right here will take us to the World Series.' I'm just going to go out there and have fun. Our team is real loose. It's kind of like we don't even realize the situation that we're in right now."

Kazmir will match up against Daisuke Matsuzaka, who went 18-3 in the regular season and beat the Rays in Game 1 of the AL championship series. The defending World Series champions have lost three in a row since then to fall to the brink of elimination, but it's a position that has served them well: They're 7-1 in elimination games since 2004, including Matsuzaka's victory in Game 7 of the ALCS against Cleveland last year.

"Believe me when I tell you: How he pitches this—the intensity, the meaning, as much as this game means—that will help him," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said Wednesday, a day after the Rays beat Boston 13-4 to take a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. "That won't hinder him."

Matsuzaka has been Boston's most reliable pitcher in the playoffs, with the Red Sox winning each of his first two starts. Meanwhile, Jon Lester struggled in his last start, and Josh Beckett has had problems in both of his.

Beckett's problem appears to be the lingering effects of a side strain he sustained at the end of the regular season, an injury that has deprived Boston of the ace who was 6-2 with a 1.73 ERA in his postseason career before this year.

"I'm not Beckett," Matsuzaka said. "But if I can pitch like he did last year and hand the ball off to the guys behind me, that would be great."

If he can, the Red Sox will need Beckett and Lester to rebound in Games 6 and 7 if they're going to have any chance at a third title in five years. In both previous World Series runs, the Red Sox came back from a 3-1 deficit in the ALCS—in 2004 they trailed the Yankees 3-0—to win the pennant.

"If we can draw on anything from that, good," Francona said. "Anything that's happened in your past—you try to turn it into an advantage for you. Saying that, this is a different team, it's a different Tampa team. But, again, we'll use anything we can to give us any kind of advantage."

If the Red Sox can extend the series, the Rays will have Shields and Matt Garza lined up at home.

"We're not looking to give them any kind of crack" in the door, Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "We believe that Kaz can pitch well tomorrow. ... We're just trying to look at the big picture with the whole thing."

The 2007 AL strikeout champion, Kazmir started the season on the disabled list with a strained left elbow. He returned early in May and a couple of weeks later signed a three-year, $28.5 million contract extension that would keep him in Tampa Bay through at least 2011.

At the time, the Rays had never finished better than fourth or come close to a .500 record, let alone a playoff berth.

"It was an easy decision for me," he said. "I could just see—you could just see that we really had something here. ... We have something that's going to last for a long time with all the young guys we have that are still developing."

Maddon said it was part of the plan all along to shuffle the rotation if they went up 3-0, in part because of the travel day Thursday that would allow the bullpen to recuperate if Kazmir can't go deep into the game.

"At any moment he can just catch fire," Maddon said. "If he's throwing the ball over the plate, he's making them swing the bat, I'll be happy. Obviously, if walks start popping up, that's the indicator. ... I'll be probably less tolerant tomorrow than I would have been at any other point."

Kazmir also has better numbers at Fenway: He is 4-4 with a 3.02 ERA at Fenway, vs. a 2-3 record and 4.29 ERA against the Red Sox at home. Shields is 0-3 in three starts with a 10.13 ERA at Fenway in his career;

"This has not been his most effective place to pitch, and he's been very effective at home," Maddon said. "Kaz has been good here. And again, you look at what Kaz has done recently, and I understand everybody's trepidation, but I feel strongly about it, we all do. We feel it's the right thing to do right now."

Cowboys moving ahead without 'Pacman', Romo

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Not far from the unoccupied locker of suspended cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones, receiver Roy Williams talked excitedly Wednesday about coming home to play for the Dallas Cowboys.

The still-frustrated Terrell Owens, who has struggled to get open and is without a 100-yard receiving game this season, spoke nearby. During his sometimes terse 10 minutes, T.O. said he looked forward to having Williams on the field and called Jones' situation unfortunate.

Then there was quarterback Tony Romo.

Romo made several throws during an early walkthrough, then appeared briefly in the locker room with the broken pinkie finger on his throwing hand heavily wrapped before escaping quickly without comment. Later, during part of the 25 minutes of practice open to reporters, Romo remained on the sideline with trainers.

Later Wednesday ESPN.com quoted a "high-ranking Cowboys source" that Romo had told coaches he's ready to play Sunday.

For now, the Cowboys are trying to move ahead without Romo and Jones, who is gone at least four games—maybe much longer, possibly forever.

"It's unfortunate. We can't really dwell on who's not here. We have to worry about the people that are here," Owens said. "But we still love Pacman like a brother and a teammate."

Jones is barred from the Cowboys' facility during his suspension, the full length of which will be determined by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell after Dallas plays Nov. 16 at Washington. Goodell said a lifetime ban remained a possibility.

For the Cowboys (4-2), who have lost two of their last three games, they have to overcome all the distractions and get ready to play Sunday at St. Louis.

"Our team was real focused," coach Wade Phillips said after practice Wednesday. "Some of it bands you together. That is what we try to preach. ... It's difficult, but I think it's something you have to do."

The NFL said Jones' reinstatement will depend on strict compliance with treatment plans by the league and the Cowboys and an evaluation by "clinical experts."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said that would include alcohol counseling for Adam Jones, though the owner wouldn't go into specifics about any of the prescribed treatment plans that would be voluntary.

Only six weeks after being reinstated from a 17-month suspension and missing the 2007 season for the Tennessee Titans because of repeated troubles, Adam Jones was involved in an alcohol-related scuffle Oct. 7 with one of his team-provided bodyguards at a private party in Dallas.

Jones is now off the team and on his own trying to get yet another chance to play in the NFL.

"He played hard for us and he gave us everything he had," Keith Davis said. "We only wish him the best, first of all. Hopefully everything goes back in his favor and he gets a chance to maybe play again."

Still, much of the talk in the locker room Wednesday was about the acquisition of Williams, a fifth-year receiver who will play opposite Owens.

"This was a good fit, and he's certainly going to help us once he gets integrated," offensive coordinator Jason Garrett said.

Williams, the Lions' 2004 first-round pick who is an Odessa native and played at the University of Texas, could take some of the defensive pressure off Owens, who has only 23 catches and has become increasingly frustrated.

Owens had only two receptions for 17 yards Sept. 21 at Green Bay, and other teams have duplicated the Packers' pressure coverage on T.O. He was still expressing frustration after he caught seven passes, took two handoffs and had 11 more balls thrown his way the next week at Washington.

T.O. broke down in tears on the sideline after a touchdown catch against Cincinnati, reading from a statement without questions after the game. He then snapped at cameramen in the locker room after Sunday's loss in Arizona and refused to answer questions.

"I'm frustrated, but since the Washington game I haven't really voiced it," Owens said Wednesday. "I just try to make the best of the opportunities that come my way. ... It is (tough), but I've still been key in some situations as far as blocking downfield."

While acknowledging that Williams' presence should benefit him and the Cowboys, Owens scoffed at the idea that people are interested in seeing how he handles being on the field with another proven receiver. Or what happens if Williams winds up having better numbers.

"So what. What about it? They're idiots," Owens said. "I'm not worried about that."

Owens and Williams were catching passes at practice from Brad Johnson, the 40-year-old quarterback who Sunday makes his first start since 2006 for Minnesota.

Williams goes from a winless team to a legitimate playoff contender that he rooted for growing up. The Cowboys have already given him a five-year extension on a contract that was set to expire after this season.

"I'm just another body out there that can catch a football. That's my God-given talent. My thing is I think I'm a possession wide receiver. I think I can complement T.O. pretty good," Williams said. "I'm just looking to have fun and help this team get to the playoffs and win a Super Bowl."

AP

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Roy Williams (11) laughs with receivers coach Ray Sherman, right, during practice at the Cowboys training facility in Irving, Texas, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008.

Furyk wins PGA Grand Slam in playoff

TUCKER'S TOWN, Bermuda (AP)—Jim Furyk won the PGA Grand Slam of Wednesday on Wednesday, birdieing the final hole to force a playoff with Padraig Harrington and winning with an 8-foot eagle putt on the first extra hole.

"I'm obviously very happy with the outcome," said Furyk, who played in place of the injured Tiger Woods in the four-man event for major champions.

"It's kind of a wonder that I'm even in the event to start with. So I kind of treated the week like I had nothing to lose. Rarely do I kind of go in just thinking about having fun. I'm usually all business and maybe it's something to learn. I kind of kept plugging away and didn't let too many things bother me."

Furyk

Furyk, winless on the PGA Tour since the 2007 Canadian Open, shot his second straight 2-under 68 to match Harrington at 4-under 136 on the Mid Ocean Club course. Harrington, the British Open and PGA champion, also shot consecutive 68s.

"Obviously, I had a chance to win," Harrington said. "I think Jim played well, solid golf through the two days, and you know, is a deserved winner, but I had opportunities. ... That's the way it goes sometimes."

Retief Goosen shot a 71 to finish at 1 over, and Masters champion Trevor Immelman had a 69 to end up last at 5 over.

Furyk earned $600,000.

Manning wanted to keep 2nd surgery from opponents

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Peyton Manning kept quiet about his second knee surgery for one reason: He thought it would give opponents an advantage. The two-time league MVP answered questions about the surgery for the first time publicly Wednesday, two days after coach Tony Dungy confirmed Manning needed two surgeries to clear the bursa sac infection in his left knee.

"The reason I just didn't really confirm or deny it the first time was I just didn't really want the Bears to know they were playing against a guy that was four weeks off of surgery," he said. "I know if I was playing against a corner that was four weeks off of surgery, I would definitely test out how good that surgery was in a game. So I just didn't think it was fair to reveal that information."

Manning continues to insist it is irrelevant now that he has produced his two best games of the season. A week ago, he helped orchestrate a remarkable comeback at Houston, rallying from 17 points down with less than 5 minutes to go, and then threw for three touchdowns in Sunday's 31-3 victory over Baltimore.

The reward for beating the Ravens was Manning's first AFC player of the week award since Dec. 2, 2007.

But for weeks, Manning declined to answer persistent rumors about a second surgery. Then last Friday, during a TV production meeting, Manning confirmed it.

On Monday, for the first time the Colts also acknowledged Manning had undergone a second surgical procedure. Because Manning usually speaks to reporters on Wednesdays and after games, he was not available for interviews.

The questions have not dissipated.

Dungy was asked Wednesday to explain why the team did not provide details earlier.

"I don't know, that's something you'd probably have to ask organization," he said.

That question-and-answer prompted Craig Kelley, Colts vice president of public relations, to say the team never denied it.

Clearly, though, the injury has been big news since the Colts announced July 14 that Manning needed surgery.

The surgery was the second biggest story during training camp, exceeded only by Brett Favre's summer soap opera in Green Bay. Even Manning, who has never missed an NFL start and has only missed one career play because of injury, acknowledges the Favre saga took some of the spotlight off his recovery.

But when Favre was traded to the Jets, Manning's absence moved to center stage.

He didn't return until Aug. 26, didn't play in his first game until the regular-season opener against Chicago, and spent the first month of the season trying to get that precision timing down with his receivers.

Sunday was the first time Manning looked like himself, hitting receivers in stride and hooking up on deep balls.

"You have to disclose most things, but I do think when it comes to protecting a player and not giving the opponent any unfair advantage besides what you're required to reveal, that was the whole reason for that," Manning said. "That was what I wanted to do."

Manning, the perfectionist, still isn't satisfied.

Despite the dramatic improvement Indy (3-2) showed against the league's top defense, Manning believes the Colts can improve in a few areas. They had 11 penalties, one of which cost Manning a fourth touchdown pass and his first 300-yard game of the season, and they still ran for only 76 yards.

Plus, Manning continues to recover from the operations that may have been blamed for his uncharacteristic slow start. Others don't see it quite the same way.

"I think he's responded very well," Green Bay coach Mike McCarthy said. "I think that was very evident in the Baltimore game. You see the comfort and timing, and the timing is coming back."

As for Manning, he wants to be finished talking about the knee.

"I was just trying to not give them any type of advantage, whether they change their blitzes or what not," Manning said. "I didn't want to keep it from anybody, and it didn't necessarily have to be a secret. That was just the whole reasoning for it."

Memorial Classic takes the place of Turkey Shoot

MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

In lieu of its yearly Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament, the Refaluwasch Golf Association will be holding its Inaugural Memorial Classic on Nov. 8 at the Marianas Country Club.

Club tournament director Jess Wabol said the decision to replace the Turkey Shoot with the Memorial Classic was made to honor RGA's departed members Plas Tagabuel, Sid K. Peter, and Tony Taitano.

Aside from that, Wabol added that unlike the annual Turkey Shoot—which is strictly for RGA members—the Memorial Classic will be open to all golfers in the CNMI.

With this, the affable former Oleai Elementary School principal invited players from Saipan Golf Association, Fil-Taga Golf Association, Korean Golf Association, and other clubs on Saipan to take part in the tournament.

"Everyone's invited. This is actually one of the few times in the year—excluding the major tournaments like HANMI and Tournament of Champions—that all of us can come out in the golf course and play," he said.

Showtime for next month's Memorial Classic is at 6:30am with tee time set an hour later at 7:30am. Entry fee for the one-day tournament is $100 and entitles participants to a wonderful round of golf, a chance to win cash prizes in the both low gross and double Peoria categories, a ticket to the awards banquet immediately following the competition, and an opportunity to donate to a worthy cause.

Like the Turkey Shoot of previous years, a portion of the proceeds will be given to a school, this time Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School.

Wabol said the low gross category will have two divisions—men's and women's—with first place taking home $300, second $200, and third $100.

Low net double Peoria, meanwhile, will have a bigger bounty as first place gets $500, second $300, and third $200.

There will also be a hole-in-one prize in hole No. 16 and a closest to the pin competition in holes No. 6, 8, and 12.

Wabol reminded interested parties that check should be made out under the name of the Refaluwasch Golf Association.

For more information about RGA's 2008 Memorial Classic, contact Wabol at 233-3673, Ed Tenorio at 285-3305, Charlotte Camacho at 664-3400, Adam Hardwicke at 483-2326, George Cruz at 483-4655, and Martin Dalsaso at 286-6323.

MARK RABAGO
Refaluwasch Golf Association tournament director Jess Wabol, seen here in a file photo, said the club will hold its Inaugural Memorial Classic on Nov. 8 at the Marianas Country Club.

Tigers notch first victory in double OT against Purefoods

MANILA, Philippines—There's a very good reason why Coca-Cola coach Binky Favis calls his main frontliners as his "three bigs."

With Asi Taulava, Nic Belasco and Mark Clemence Telan showing the way, Coca-Cola escaped with a 103-102 double overtime victory over Purefoods Wednesday to finally break into the win-column of the KFC PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

Belasco scored 10 of his 20 points in the two extensions, while Taulava and Telan each turned in double-doubles that pointed the Tigers to their first win in three tries.

Mark Macapagal also had a big steal and a charity split that would prove to be the marginal point in the final 10.5 seconds of the game as it gave Coke a 103-99 spread that proved to be enough of a cushion.

Favis' sigh of relief, however, only came after Peter June Simon, who went 5-of-6 from the stripe in Purefoods' first two games, failed to complete a rare four-point play that could have tied the game with only eight-tenths of a second left in the second overtime.

Telan then tipped the miss away and the ball was still loose as the final buzzer sounded.

"My hat's off to our three leaders, our bigs. Nothing would work for us in the first half so we pushed our three big buttons and it did wonders for us," stated Favis.

"Belasco in the end turned garbage into gold, Telan keeps doing what he had to do and Asi, well, is just being the leader he's always been," he added.

Despite nursing a sore back, James Yap wound up with a game-high 29 points for Purefoods, which dropped its second straight game and is now tied with its conqueror with a 1-2 win-loss slate.

Both coming off the bench, Enrico Villanueva added 24 points and 13 rebounds and Simon 22.

Kerby Raymundo scored nine of his 12 points in the overtimes but misses by him, Villanueva and James Yap, coupled with crucial turnovers by Roger Yap stifled the Giants' bid to bounce back from a 98-111 loss to San Miguel Beer last Friday.

The win was also Coke's first in their last four Philippine Cup meetings with Purefoods, but this one stands out since the Tigers now have the monkey off their backs.

"We knew right from the start that nothing's gonna be easy, but I never imagined it would be this difficult," gushed Favis after the game that saw them trail by as much as 46-60 in the third quarter.

Coca-Cola 103 – Taulava 20, Belasco 20, Arigo 15, Telan 14, Macapagal 13, Cabagnot 10, Buenafe 5, Rizada 5, Calimag 1, Baguion 0, Dimaunahan 0.

Purefoods 102 – Yap J. 29, Villanueva 24, Simon 22, Raymundo 12, Aban 7, Yap R. 7, Bugia 1, Lanete 0, Salvador 0.

Quarterscores: 24-20, 30-40, 52-65, 81-81; 91-91; 103-102. ***(www.pba.com.ph)***

CNMI

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points, splitting his charities in the last two minutes of the game to give his team a 10-point lead, 82-72.

Earlier, White scored four points to up the Junior Nationals lead from three to seven, 79-72.

The Sixers had plenty of time to catch up, but instead of setting up for quick two-pointers, they took several 3-pointers and failed to make a single shot from downtown. Worse, the Sixers also had turnovers with Ada losing the possession on the baseline, and the ball slipping Matt Duenas' hands with Cruz getting the ball and drilling a coast-to-coast layup that increased the Junior Nationals' lead to 12, 84-72, with 1:05 remaining on the clock.

Free throws from Cruz and Allen Mosses and another layup from White secured the victory for the Junior Nationals.

Cruz paced the Junior Nationals with 32 points, while White chipped in 20.

The Junior Nationals played against the Sixers sans their second best scorer Marvin Rabauliman, who was given disciplinary action and will only play at the start of the playoffs next week.

The Junior Nationals hardly felt Rabauliman's absence, as Jose Castro took his place, adding 19 markers. Moses also finished in double figures with 10 points, while Heartim Williams and John Villagomez scored four apiece.

Only four players scored for the Sixers with Ada hitting 32 points. Ernest Duenas contributed 17, but was held to only a field goal in the last six minutes of the match. Matt Duenas fired 14, but had only two points in the second half. Ian Benavente nailed nine.

CNMI Junior Nationals 89 – Cruz 32, White 20, Castro 19, Moses 10, Villagomez 4, Williams 4.

Sixers 74 – Ada 32, E Duenas 17, M. Duenas 14, Benavente 9.

Scoring by quarters: 43-42, 89-74

Referees: Gabriel White and Connie Camacho.

TSUNAMI

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will evaluate the performances of their swimmers and see what needs to be done to get them in tip-top shape for the Guam tournaments.

The Tsunami Saipan coach added they are hoping to get personal best times from their swimmers this weekend and are also expecting CNMI records to be broken..

"There are high expectations for Rezne's 50m breaststroke, Kai's 50m, 100m, 200m freestyle, and Kensuke's 800m freestyle," Kimura said.

Rezne Wong, Kai Staal, and Kensuke Kimura are among the 23 swimmers who will participate in tomorrow's dual meet.

The list also include Cooper Graf, Shin Kimura, Marystar Welch, Sarah Johnson, Kaisei, Kaito, Kosei, and Ryosei Toda, Thea Minor, Ashley Welch, Takumi Sugie, Hiroto Yanai, Angel Marie Tan, and Angel De Jesus. The following swimmers are members of Tsunami Saipan's Sensyu (senior swimmer), Jyun-Sensyu (junior), and Ikusei II (developmental team II) teams.

Tsunami Saipan also has an Ikusei I (developmental team I) and will have several swimmers from this group joining this weekend's dual meet.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers will square off with SSC's Andrew and Grace Kimball, Michael Moran, Bryce Daly Abigail Martinsen, Blair Nicholls, Junior Pamaran, Lester Lapuz, Rena Son, Victoria Chentsova, Kento Akimaru, Selyna Leon Guerrero, and Keanna Villagomez.

SCHOOLS

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Tinian Elementary School won two divisions last year with Ignacio Borja and Barton Manglona leading the visitors in the boys' 10-and-under division, and Dorsha Maui and Rudynna Lazaro shining in the girls category.

Other top performers in last year's championship were Whispering Palms' Danny Auther, who ruled the 1,600-meter run in the boys division with a time of 8:02, Borja and (9:29) and Manglona (9:30).

Gabrielle Race, also of Whispering Palms, prevailed in the girls division (8:15), while Maui (8:37) and Lazaro (9:08) placed second and third.

Garapan Elementary School claimed the girls' 12-and-under division title after the 1-2 individual finish of Cris Obaldo (7:39) and Corina Suda (8:32). Ashley Babauta of Kagman Elementary School made it to the Top 3 completing the race in exactly nine minutes.

No team was named champion in the boys division due to the lack of runners. Each school should have at least three runners in each division to earn points. Hopwood Junior High School's Brandon Philip topped the individual race in 7:00, followed by Saipan International School's Angelo Jones (7:00.50), and Michael Mancao of Hopwood (7:07).

Hopwood, Whispering Palms, and Kagman competed in the 14-and-under class but did not have enough runners.

Hopwood's Jaythan Camacho outraced Kagman's Mark Sanchez and Alan Sablan to win the boys' 14-and-under division with a time of 15:30. Sanchez and Sablan posted 16:32 and 17:53, respectively.

Jeralyn Castillo defeated Hopwood teammate Reylynn Sapong for the girls' 14-and-under title. Castillo timed in at 17:25 against Sapong's 17:55, while Madison Schultz of Whispering Palms finished third (19:00).

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time an hour later at 7am.

Johnson reminded that the first 120 registrants will receive a free event T-shirt and are eligible for the raffle prizes after the run. Entry fee for the SIS 5K Fun Run is still only $10.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the As Lito-based school. More specifically, Johnson said money raised from the event will replace the fund used to construct the new school building that was completed last year.

Runners of all ages can join the event and Johnson said prizes for the overall Top 3 finishers are guaranteed. In the meantime, the prizes for age group categories would be awarded if there are enough funds.

The 2008 SIS 5K Fun Run is sponsored by DFS Saipan, PTI, Tropical Blend Spa, Shell Marianas, Deloitte & Touche, Pacific Islands Club, Delta Management, Marianas Medical Center, Hawaiian Rock Products, The Financial Group, Water Company, AIC Marianas, Micronesian Marine, Saipan Ice and Water Co., and Big Dipper.

Eli Torgeson won the seventh edition of the annual fundraising event last year with a record time of 16 minutes and 40 seconds. Mamiko Berger, meanwhile, holds the record for the women with a time of 21:51.

For more information about the 2008 SIS 5K Fun Run, contact SIS at 288-9660.

Shutout galore in Week 9 of 8-Ball League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four teams swept their rivals in Week 9 of the Budweiser Open 8-Ball League to keep the top two spots in the Agingan and Obyan divisions.

The PTI Voyagers shut out Godfather's Rock Ready, 4-0, to remain on top of the team standings in the Agingan division with a 27-5 record.

Luis Fajardo, Roman Rodriguez, Jojo Talibong, Amor Zapata, and Jean Cadag won all their games against Rock Steady, which is composed of Bill Pangelinan, Sam Babauta, Gary Pangelinan, Mike Sablan, and Pat Camacho.

Inching closer to the Voyagers were the SaipanCell Hustlers, who improved to a 26-10 slate after sweeping Islander Rent A Car, 4-0.

Delivering victories for the Hustlers were Jerry Soriano, Robert Sanciangco, Erwin Gomez, Joey Lucido, and Senen Pangelinan.

Also winning in Week 9 was Coral Reef Shark Attack, which downed USSP, 3-1. Shark Attack is composed of Pat Taitano, Jerry Ayuyu, Vince Marehan, Bern Kileleman, and Ben Norita. Shark Attack is in fifth place with its 10-26 record, tying Rock Steady.

Wat-Ever remained in fourth place with a 10-22 slate, 11 wins behind Islander Rent a Car, which is in third spot with a 21-15 record.

In the Obyan division, Primo's Home Boys widened their lead after a 4-0 sweep over the VFW Warriors.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
The PTI Voyagers, seen here in a file photo, scored a 4-0 shutout victory over Godfather's Rock Ready last Tuesday to remain on top of the Agingan division with a 27-5 win-loss record.

The Home Boys are ahead five wins against the Perfect Spotters, who also shut out Coral Reef Barracuda in the other game, 4-0.

The Home Boys, which are composed of Nolan Cultura, Franz De Luna, Mario Diola, Jorge Lizardo, and Juancho Mendoza, improved to a 26-10 record, while the Perfect Spotters upped their slate to 21-15.

The Perfect Spotters drew wins from Serge Tibupan, Primo Ferrera, Johnny Dagos, Eric Pioz, and Mario Jumalon.

In third place is USSP Fotten Palau, which downed the D'Pirates Huwa, 3-1, for a 19-17 record.

D'Pirates Huwa dropped to fourth place with an 18-18 slate, followed by Barracuda (12-24), and the Warriors (12-24).

11 teams sign up for Custom Goodwill softball tournament

Custom Goodwill Non-Profit Organization is one team short of its 12-team target for this weekend's softball fundraiser, according to president Samantha Salas.

She said so far 11 teams have signed up and paid their $100 entry fee for the three-day softball tournament set at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Salas said the 11 teams that will swing the bats and run the bases this weekend are Mangge, FAS, Your Balls, Faha, Sufa, DCEPT&6, Miller Killer, Heats, AJ'z, Natibu, and Sakudi Umbre.

She added that the organization can still accommodate a 12th team provided that the team submits its entry before the 6pm deadline today, Oct. 17.

The Custom Goodwill Fundraising Softball Tournament will kick off today with matches scheduled from 6pm to 9pm at the Capital Hill venue. Action resumes the entire day tomorrow from 9am to 9pm with the remaining elimination round games, the playoffs, and the finals set on Sunday.

For more information about the softball tournament organized by the Custom Goodwill Non-Profit Organization, call Salas at 285-7527 or Craig Sanchez at 483-3295.

Salas also took time to extend her gratitude to sponsors of the weekend fundraising softball tournament.

"We want to thank all donations from companies and individuals and assistance from everyone in making this fundraiser a success," she said.

The Custom Goodwill Non-Profit Organization is former by wives and love one of employees of the Division of Customs.
(Mark Rabago)

2008 Genesis Cup kicks off tonight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 3rd CIM-FCC Inter-Color Basketball League-Genesis Cup will open shop tonight at the CIM-FCC Basketball Court in Gualo Rai with four teams competing for the championships.

League organizer Noel Puno said the four teams are composed of players from various Filipino congregations which are under the Filipino Community Church on Saipan. FCC together with the Calvary International Mission are organizing the league, which is sponsored by Coca-Cola.

The league will kick off with a brief opening ceremony, to be followed by the opening game at 4:30pm.

Puno said names of the teams will be known tonight along with the opening game, as draws will be held before the start of the first match.

The league will have a three-round robin format in the regular season with the top two teams squaring off for the championships and the last two battling for the consolation match.

Puno said they have only four teams this year because the third edition of the league will only serve as a preparation for next year's caging.

"We will have a big one next year," Puno said.

Last year, the Genesis Cup drew 10 teams with Jeremiah stunning pennant champion Daniel in the do-or-die finals, 105-84.

Other teams that competed in the second edition of the Genesis Cup were Joshua, Daniel, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Nehemiah, Elijah, Caleb, Gideon, Hosea, and Samuel. The last three failed to make it to the single-elimination playoffs.

Jeremiah defeated Joshua, 106-96, in the semifinals to book the first finals ticket, while Daniel advanced to the title match after whipping Caleb, 106-97.

Joshua downed Caleb in the consolation game, 95-90, to claim the third place trophy.

Jeremiah's Kevin Cequena was adjudged league MVP.

This year's Genesis Cup will be holding one game every Friday and Saturday at 5pm. The league, which has "Yes to Jesus, No to Drugs" as its theme, is expected to play the championship game on Dec. 20

Puno said games in the Genesis Cup will be officiated by FIBA Level 1 referee William Sewell, who coached FSM in the 1989 Micronesian Basketball Tournament.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Organizers and supporters of the 3rd CIM-FCC Inter-Color Basketball League-Genesis Cup pose for a group photo at the league's headquarters in Gualo Rai. From left, Pastor Tony Gelua of MCC, Pastor Brendon Perez of VCC, FIBA Level 1 referee William "Bill" Sewell, and league coordinator Pastor Noel Puno.

Teams wanted for Bud Cup, 25-and-under caging

The Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands has told interested teams to start preparing for the start of its Budweiser Cup and 25-and-under Basketball League.

BANMI board member and Bud Cup and 25-and-under Basketball League coordinator Abner Venus said competition for both leagues are expected to start soon.

He said BANMI waited for the island's power situation to normalize before giving the two leagues the green light to kick off its 2008 seasons.

The Bud Cup is the CNMI's premier basketball league, while the 25-and-under is more of a developmental competition geared for the island's youth cagers.

Venus said BANMI is expected to finalize the format for both the Bud Cup and the 25-and-under Basketball League during its scheduled monthly meeting next month. Details to be hammered out are the ground rules, entry fee, and schedule for the two leagues.

For more inquiries about the Bud Cup and 25-and-under Basketball League, contact Venus at 483-4906 or fellow coordinator Elias Rangamar at 664-2502.

Rock Steady won the 2007 BANMI-Budweiser Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League after beating the Saipan Stevedore Suns, 92-78, in the winner-take-all championship earlier this year.

Rock Steady used a 9-0 run early in the fourth quarter as cushion to secure the title and their sixth straight win at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last Feb. 1.

Ulloa's, meanwhile, won the 2007 SaipanCell 25-and-under Youth Basketball League crown, beating the Southern Sonics, 2-1, in their best-of-three championship series.

The team clinched the crown after a 90-81 victory in Game 3. Ulloa's took Game 1, 101-86, but Southern Sonics roared back with a 100-94 victory in Game 2.
(Mark Rabago)

Rock Steady's Freddy Pelisamen tries to score against the defense of the Saipan Stevedore Suns' Jawn Joyner and Elmer Esdrelon in this file photo from their game in the 2007 BANMI-Budweiser Cup Men's Island-wide Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Shutout galore in Week 9 of 8-Ball League

Four teams swept their rivals in Week 9 of the Budweiser Open 8-Ball League to keep the top two spots in the Agingan and Obyan divisions.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Rollins, Hamels lead Phillies into World Series

The losingest team in pro sports history was soaked in champagne and whooping it up Wednesday night. Next stop for these Philadelphia Phillies: the World Series.

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CNMI Jr. Nationals secure pennant

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Nationals capitalized on the San Antonio Sixers' errors in the stretch to post an 89-74 victory last night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and claim the pennant in the 2008 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League.

The Sixers committed several turnovers and took hurried shots in the last four minutes of the game to lose their pennant bid. The Sixers finished the regular season with a 7-1 record.

The CNMI Junior Nationals improved to a 7-0 mark and even if they lose to the G-Stars tonight, the Rufino Aguon-mentored squad will still be this year's pennant champion.

Jericho Cruz and Joseph White drilled crucial baskets in the closing minutes of the game, as they were mostly the recipients of the Junior Nationals' fastbreak plays.

The Sixers lost the battle of speed because after they made baskets, they failed to return to transition defense, allowing Cruz and White to cruise to breakaway layups.

On several occasions, the Sixers were too fast for their own good, losing the ball on their way to the basket.

The Sixers threatened the Junior Nationals last at the 68-71 tally after Joe Ada made a layup, entering the final four minutes of the match.

But Cruz and White led the Junior Nationals' 18-16 windup to nail the 15-point win.

Cruz had nine of the Junior Nationals' last 18

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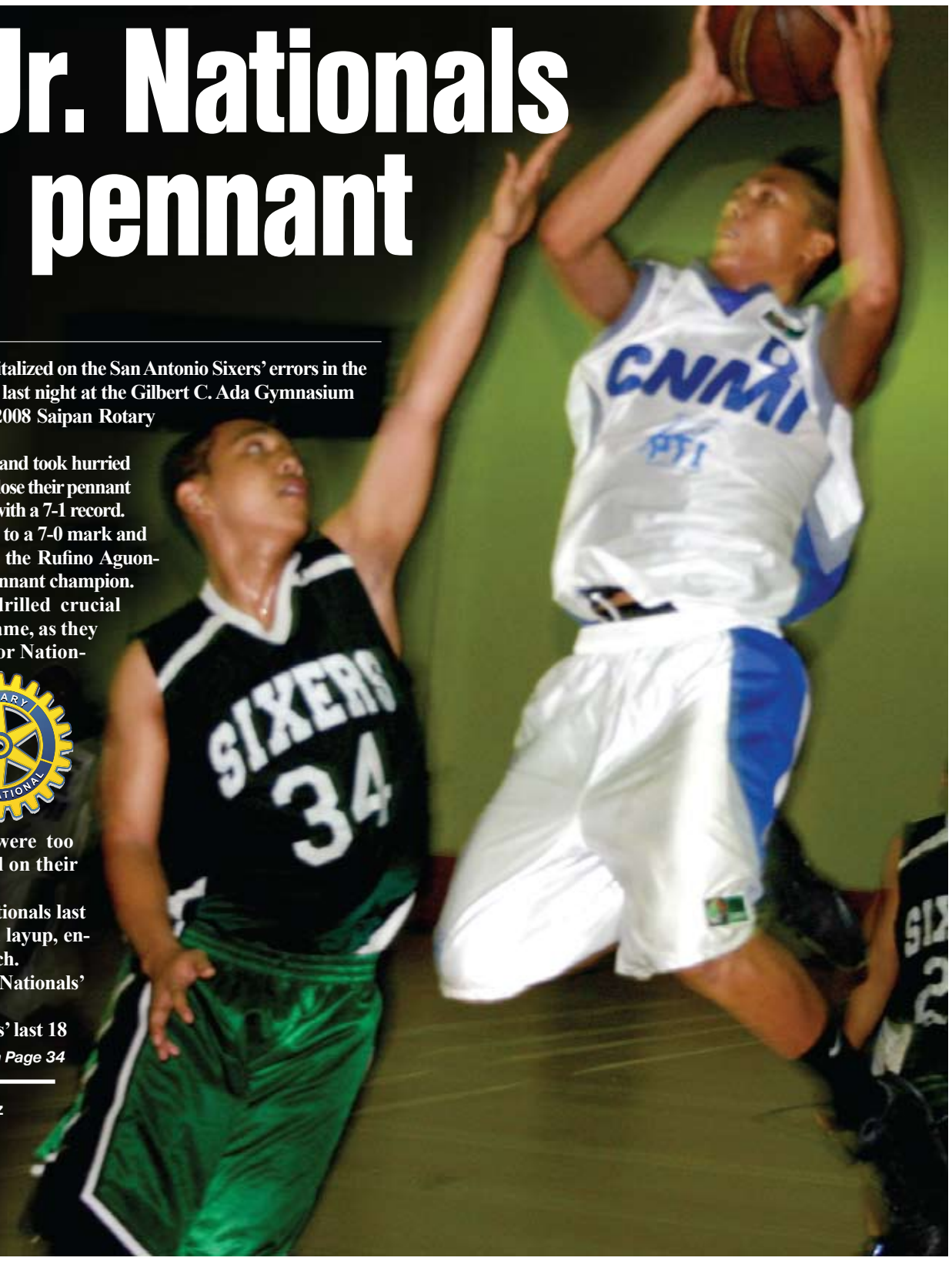

The CNMI Junior Nationals' Jericho Cruz floats for a layup against the Sixers' Ian Benavente during their game in the Rotary caging last night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gynasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Schools told to prep up for cross country series

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Athletics will begin the All Schools Cross Country series two Saturdays from now at the CPA Airport Field.

NMA developmental officer Elias Rangamar is calling on all schools to prepare their cross country teams and get in touch with NMA officials for the schedule of the series.

Rangamar said next Saturday's tournament will begin at 4pm.

"We will have two more series before we proceed with the All Schools Cross Country Championship. We are encouraging teachers/coaches to bring their students at the Airport Field to participate in this year's cross country series," Rangamar said.

No entrance fees are required for the series and the championship and NMA will be giving trophies and medals to the top finishers in various age groups and team events.

The cross country series and the championship is open for elementary, middle school, and high school students.

Last year, Marianas High School dominated the 18-and-under division with Jacque Wonenberg and Nate Mateo leading the Dolphins' attack.

Mateo and Wonenberg timed in at 12 minutes, 52 seconds and 15:34, respectively, in the 3,200-meter run.

Teammates Matthew "Freedom" Mancao (13:01) and Champ Untalan (13:08); and Gresil Race (17:37) and Theresa Dimapilis (17:54) completed the MHS sweep in the boys' and girls divisions.

Kagman High School placed second in the boys division.

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Tsunami Saipan warms up for Guam meets

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan will be using its dual meet with Saipan Swim Club this weekend to prepare for two tournaments in Guam at the end of this year.

The Tsunami Saipan-SSC dual meet will be held tomorrow at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool with Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura wanting to see how their swimmers are improving after several months of training.

"When they swim against SSC this Saturday, we will be able to see their level of competence. The purpose of this meet is to review what they have learned from our practices and apply them to actual competition to produce the best possible results," Kimura said.

He added the dual meet will warm up Tsunami Saipan for two tournaments in Guam. On Nov. 21 and 22, Tsunami Saipan will be competing in the Guam Swim Federation Island Invitational and Kimura's wards will return on Guam on Dec. 27 and 28 for the Guam International Swim Meet.

Kimura said after the dual meet, they

See TSUNAMI on Page 34

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tsunami Saipan swimmers prepare for a drill during their training session at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi last month. Tsunami Saipan will face SSC swimmers in a dual meet tomorrow.

100 expected for SIS Fun Run

MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

As much as 100 are expected to take part in tomorrow's 8th Annual Saipan International School 5K Fun Run, according to coordinator Betty Johnson.

The event will start at Banzai Cliff in Marpi and participants will run to the main highway and proceed north toward Cowtown Raceway Park and turn back to the starting line for the finish.

Registration for the 2008 SIS 5K Fun Run begins at 6am with send-off

See 100 on Page 34

MARK RABAGO

Eli Torgeson, seen here in a file photo from the 2008 XTERRA Saipan Championships, won the seventh edition of the annual fundraising event last year with a record time of 16 minutes and 40 seconds.